



£232m project would also improve existing homes

D-DAY FOR NEW COUNCIL HOMES

Report by Jamie Brassington

IT is decision day for a plan to build more than 300 council homes in Dudley over the next five years, at a cost of more than £30 million.

The proposals go before Dudley Council's cabinet at a meeting today (Thursday).

The local authority has outlined ambitious plans to build new and improve existing council housing in the borough in a scheme with a total cost of £232m.

A Dudley Council spokesman said: "Our five-year programme going forward from April 2018 involves a proposed spend of over £30m, which aims to deliver in excess of 300 new homes."

The council is also proposing to spend £72m on the maintenance of existing council housing, including kitchen and bathroom replacements and work on roofs, doors and windows.

More than £22m has been identified to address fuel poverty, including improving central heating and providing more affordable heating in 3,250 homes, also reducing carbon emissions.

Nearly £31m would be spent on work to support independent living, including home adaptations for tenants with disabilities, plus and improvements to sheltered and supported homes.

Investment

And more than £13m will be invested in community and estate regeneration.

Councillor Laura Taylor, cabinet member for housing, said: "We are committed to doing all we can to improve the standard of living for our tenants, and this huge investment over the next five years reflects that. The future is bright for Dudley."

"We want to make it as easy as possible for people to live and work here by offering good quality, fit for purpose, modern council homes."

Money spent on council homes is ring-fenced, and it is mainly sourced from rental income from tenants and receipts from right-to-buy sales.

The council says the programme of works has no impact on the level of council tax.

Dudley Council's plan to invest in homes comes as council bosses are set to make major decisions in the coming months over services and finances in the borough.

NED'S ATOMIC TIPPLE IS THE WONDER STUFF



Jonny Penny, of Ned's Atomic Dustbin, and Miles Hunt, of The Wonder Stuff, launch the new beer named in their honour

ROCKERS Ned's Atomic Dustbin and The Wonder Stuff's Miles Hunt shared a pint back on home turf when they launched a new ale in their honour.

Ned's Wonder – a limited edition 4.1 per cent ale from Birmingham-based Froth Blowers Brewing Co – has been created to mark the forthcoming Love From Stourbridge tour, which will feature sets from both bands.

Miles joined Ned's members Jonny Penny

and Rat to perform a few acoustic numbers at The Duke William pub in Coventry Street, Stourbridge, in front of a select crowd before raising a glass as the first pint of Ned's Wonder was pulled.

Pub manager Jason Taylor, aged 39, said: "It was very successful – there were about 80 people upstairs."

"Everything went well and the three barrels we had all went.

"It is a malty beer and it is a more traditional style ale – we are sort of spoilt now with the choices of ales we have but this is a good base beer."

"I can't see why we would not have it on while they were touring."

"Hopefully it will crop up in a lot more local boozers – it is more choice for the community. They all enjoyed it and I think it will do well on the tour."

CRIME

Public warned over bogus water workers

POLICE have issued a warning following a spate of distraction burglaries carried out by crooks posing as water company workers.

Elderly people in Dudley, Tipton and Oldbury have been targeted by fraudsters claiming to be from water companies, who trick their way into homes and then search for money and valuables.

Severn Trent Water is also investigating after reminding the public that their staff will always be in uniform. A police spokesman said: "These types of burglaries target vulnerable and elderly people."

HIPPODROME

Protest outside council house

A PROTEST will be held outside of Dudley Council house today (Thursday) ahead of a meeting that could decide the fate of Dudley Hippodrome.

Dudley Council's cabinet is due to decide this evening if campaigners given the keys to the Castle Hill landmark have met the aims laid out at the start of the project to save the venue. The protest is from 5.15pm.

● Curtain to fall? – page 14

COURT

Romanian killer stabbed sister-in-law

A KILLER from Romania, who had battered a man to death in his home country, tried to kill his sister-in-law just eight months after being allowed into the UK.

Gheorghe 'Melo' Mihai launched a savage attack on 23-year-old Roxana Mihai in Lye when she interrupted a conversation he was having with his brother. He stabbed her in the face, head, arm and back.

● Like a man possessed – page 3

INSIDE

MUNICH IS REMEMBERED



PAGE 2

Wombourne Windows™

ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES

After 36 years of trading,
there really is no one else in the frame

www.wombourne-windows.co.uk

See our
full page
advertisement
on page 10

CONTENTS

PETER RHODES	6
LETTERS	7
PEPPA PIG COMPETITION	9
CLUBS	15
THE TICKET	19
BRAIN GYM	25
MOTORING	27-30
SPORT	35-36
CONTACT US	

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205
E-mail: dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC: Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Sue Jones
Tel: 01384 399901
E-mail: sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Colin Bailey
Tel: 01902 313131 ext 3731
E-mail: colin.bailey@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Stourbridge
CHRONICLE

51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
www.yourchronicle.com

DON'T MISS YOUR
Express & Star

EVERY DAY
ON THE BALL
All your latest sports updates

EVERY SATURDAY
NIGEL HASTILOW
He always tackles the hot topics head-on

Father wants action on killer drivers



Georgie Evans

THE father of a teenager killed by a speeding driver has backed a campaign for tougher sentences started by The Chronicle's sister newspaper the Express & Star.

The Stop the Speeders petition was launched week after reporting on two men jailed for less than eight years for each causing the death of a man by dangerous driving.

By the start of this week the petition had more than 1,100 signatures. It calls for judges to given longer sentences for killer drivers and will be sent to Prime Minister Theresa May.

The latest person to back it is Richard Evans, whose daughter Georgie Evans, a former pupil of Kinver High School, died when her car was hit by an Audi A6 driven by Kuba Ole, who was speeding on Priory Road in Dudley. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard the 24-year-old, of Beaconview Road, West Bromwich, fled the scene.

He was later jailed for six years, after pleading guilty to causing death by dangerous driving. Mr Evans said: "We lost our daughter on 27th October 2016 due to driver speeding at nearly 100mph in a 30mph zone. He struck her car with

such force it tore it in half. She hadn't a prayer.

"The driver then made off from the scene and handed himself in 18 hours later. He was sentenced to six years imprisonment and probably will be out in four. We are paying the ultimate sentence. Enough is enough."

Ole later tried to blame the victim, claiming she had been inexperienced and travelling too slowly. Those allegations were dismissed by the police.

Visit www.change.org/p/theresa-may-mp-killer-drivers-should-have-stiffer-sentences

Council tax is set to rise by 4.5 per cent

DUDLEY Council is set to raise council tax by 4.5 per cent from April.

The authority is planning to increase council tax by 2.99 per cent, and charge households a further 1.5 per cent to fund adult social care.

Councillor Steve Clark, cabinet member for finance, said: "No council wants to increase council tax, but this small increase is the right thing to do for our residents."

Most households, in band B properties, will pay an extra 82p per week if the plans are approved. Households in band D properties will pay an extra £1.05.

Nearly 1,500 took part in consultation, called the Big Question, which ended last month. Council bosses will discuss the results at cabinet today (Thursday).

Last year the Government agreed to a deal allowing councils to increase council tax by 2.99 per cent and also approved a new social care precept – an extra rise in council tax – to generate money specifically for adult social care for older and more vulnerable people.

Savings

Councils were allowed to increase council tax under the precept between one and three per cent, with Dudley Council opting for a 1.5 per cent increase. This would make it the second lowest council tax rate in the country of metropolitan boroughs. It comes at a time when local authorities face a fall in funding from central government.

Dudley Council has put forward savings of £4m for the next financial year starting from April.

Council bosses will also consider increasing the social care precept by a further 1.5 per cent from April 2019, under proposed government rules. Councillor Clark continued: "We've already made significant savings, including £4m additional savings in 2018/19, but we still need to invest in our services."

A decision will be made at a full council meeting on February 19.

Fans in tribute to disaster victims



Fans at Old Trafford paid tribute to the victims of the Munich air disaster including Dudley's Duncan Edwards

"MANCHESTER, Munich," and Dudley will forever be united."

That was the moving final tribute in a special book of remembrance for Dudley-born football hero Duncan Edwards.

Rose Cook-Monk has handed the book over in the German city to mark the 60th anniversary of the Munich air crash, which claimed the life of England player Dun-

can and seven of his Manchester United team-mates, as well as several club officials, fans, journalists and air crew.

On the last page of the book she wrote: "On behalf of the Duncan Edwards Foundation, our Mayor Councillor Dave Tyler and the people of Dudley, I am proud to hand over the book of remembrance dedicated to Duncan. We are immensely

proud of Duncan, his achievements and the wonderful person he was. Manchester, Munich and Dudley will forever be united."

Around a thousand Manchester United fans visited the German city as part of a commemoration, while supporters also paid tribute at Old Trafford on Saturday and on Tuesday to the 'Busby Babes' team.

● Such great lads – page 14

Flexible and simplified new disability services due

DISABILITY services in Dudley are set to be transformed as part of a shake-up of special education and social care services.

Dudley Council's cabinet were being asked to rubber-stamp plans for the new-looking service at a meeting yesterday (Wednesday).

Chiefs said the proposals 'will improve co-ordination of care for people with disabilities from childhood through to adulthood'. The new service puts 'greater emphasis on helping people gain skills and knowledge, and have confidence and a social life', bosses added.

Councillor Nicolas Barlow, cabinet member for adult social care, said: "This is a major transformation of services which will help people live a full and independent life."

"We have talked to services users and carers in recent months who have told us we need to do more to simplify processes, improve our response times and offer greater flexibility in the way we do things."

"We know all of these things combined with the fact that people should at the very least have a consistent and quality experience regardless of age, the introduction of the whole life disability service is a key move to transform the way we do things and ultimately improves a person's quality of life."

Original shop to go after 130 years

A FAMILY-run jewellery business will close one of its shops after more than 130 years trading on a Black Country high street.

TH Bakers, which opened in 1888, has announced it will be closing its store in Brierley Hill High Street, which was its first shop. The company, which owns 30 stores around the country, will still operate other Black Country branches.

Paul Griffiths, a spokesman for the company, said: "The reason for the store's closure is due to long term declining trade on the high street to a point that, after trading on the high street for 130 years, keeping the store open is no longer feasible. However we are still trading in all of our other store areas, including Merry Hill, Stourbridge and Halesowen."

Blues at the library

A COUNTRY-BLUES band will be playing a library gig on Saturday. The Whiskey Poets including author RJ Ellory and former ELO member Martin Smith are at Blackheath Library on Saturday at 7pm. Tickets with meal are £8 adults and £3 children. Call 0121 559 1884.

Able & Bromley Carpets / Beds Est since 1978

SOFAS, VINYL LAMINATES, STAIRLIFTS

WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.
Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets, Plus Shave doors

DISABLED? OAP? CAN'T GET OUT?
or anyone who just needs extra help!
Can't come to us, we'll come to YOU
We will bring 100s of carpet samples sofa and bed brochures to your door

Double divan bed, free headboard, 2 free drawers Was £699
Now £399

Heavy Domestic Saxons from **£7.50** sq yd was £14.99

3 Seater Sofa Only **£399**

Divan beds and mattresses from only **£72.00**

Carpets from only **£3.50** sq yd

UP TO 50% OFF PLUS FREE FITTING (on selected carpets T&C's apply) 100's of rolls and end of rolls in store at knockdown prices WE WILL BEAT YOUR BIG SUPERSTORE

Click on-line for many great prices - Check out our video and 5 star reviews on www.ablecarpets.co.uk

Free quotes and Planning

Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est., Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD
OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00 SUNDAY 10AM-3PM

Quarry Bank
Lye
Wollscote
Kinver

Stourbridge
Pedmore
Brierley Hill
Wordsley

Adrian Bromley
01902 880541

FREEPHONE 0800 0853747 WE COVER ALL AREAS

GASWAY LTD. Est 1976

Open since 1976 Gasway has been your first choice for Gas Fires, Surrounds, Cookers and much more, all at competitive prices.

Why not visit Dave, Jon and the team today for FREE expert advice and quotes.

- Cookers Supplied and Fitted
- Gas Fires and Fire Surrounds
- Electric Fires and Fire suites
- Servicing Spare Parts
- Central Heating Systems Supplied and Fitted
- Fire Guards / Companion Sets
- All at competitive Prices

Free standing gas stoves
Natural gas or lpg
Can be fitted into class 1, class 2 and pre cast flues
Flue and venting options
Manual control with integral ignition
Log fuel bed
Up to 78% efficient
3.6k output

For complete peace of mind and a friendly service, why not visit Gasway in Lower High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1TA. 01384 372246

Footworks Chiropody
Keeping you one step ahead...

- Ingrown Toe Nails Treated
- Toe Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Foot Care
- General Foot Care
- Callus Reduction

HCPC Registered & Foot Healthcare Practitioners

Home Visits Available

01384 413444
201 - 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HE

Student is found not guilty in murder trial

THE jury in the trial of a man accused of fatally stabbing amateur footballer Ryan Passey during a fight in a Stourbridge nightclub has found the defendant not guilty.

Student Kobe Murray, 19, has been cleared after he denied murdering 24-year-old Mr Passey in Chicago's in Stourbridge town centre on August 6 last year.

Murray, of The Broadway, Dudley, had claimed he had acted in self-defence.

He was found not guilty of murder and not guilty of manslaughter.

During the trial at Birmingham Crown Court, the jury has heard differing accounts about who the knife belonged to.

Murray said he grabbed it from his friend to dispose of it just before he was punched, and lashed out to fend off further attack, accidentally stabbing Mr Passey.

The prosecution had asserted that the knife belonged to Murray and that he deliberately plunged it into his victim.

Summing up on Monday Judge Julian Goose QC told the jury: "Ultimately you should concentrate on what the defendant did do and not what he meant to do."

He directed them that if they believed it was self-defence they should return a verdict of non-guilty to both charges.

Straits not right for site, says MP

A PROPOSAL to build a temporary travellers site in Gornal is strongly opposed by residents, says an MP.

Dudley Council is suggesting a transit site in the Straits but 93 per cent of residents surveyed by Dudley North MP Ian Austin opposed the move. The Straits site, is one of 10 sites which Dudley Council is looking at to establish a camp. A site in Colesey seems the most likely but sites elsewhere in the borough, including Lye, are under consideration at a meeting this week.

Having such a site will make it easier for the police and council to move on travellers from illegal camps. Mr Austin said: "I do not think that heavily residential areas, such as the sites in my constituency at the Straits or Blowers Green, are suitable."

Spring ale festival

A BREWERY is hosting a spring beer festival next month. Green Duck Brewery in Rufford Road, Stourbridge, is holding the event in its Badelynge Bar from March 15 to 17. There will be 30 ales and 15 ciders.

Violent thug had been in Romanian jail



Gheorghe Mihai

HE had murdered before in his home country but that did stop Romanian killer Gheorghe 'Melo' Mihai entering this country – and trying to murder again.

The 38-year-old could not be refused entry because he had served the seven year sentence imposed in 2006 for battering a man to death with a piece of wood in September 2004, was not wanted for any other crime and did not need to tell officials of his alarming previous conviction when he came to the UK at the end of 2016.

Romania is a member of the European Union and its citizens benefit from 'free movement' rights. They do not need a visa

to visit or work here and so avoid the checks made on people from nations not in the EU, who must give details of any previous criminal conviction before it is decided whether to let them in.

Just eight months after his arrival Mihai launched a savage knife attack on his 23-year-old sister-in-law Roxana Mihai during a terrifying drunken rampage in Lye High Street near Stourbridge on August 7.

He was found guilty of attempted murder at Wolverhampton Crown Court this week and warned he faces a lengthy sentence.

The car wash attendant flew into a rage after she interrupted a conversation he was

having with her husband. "He looked like a man possessed," said an eye witness, lorry driver Kieran Langan.

Mihai had gone to a bus shelter where Roxana was waiting with her husband, to ask his step-brother Nicursor Gheorghe for money. He said: "My wife then told him we had no money because we had sent it to our family in Romania. He said to her 'why are you talking in our conversation' and took out a knife. I held him to let my wife run and hide." But the defendant gave chase and deliberately tripped the fleeing woman when he caught up with her on a car park before stabbing her at least four times.

Convicted killer tried to murder his sister-in-law

A CONVICTED Romanian killer who tried to murder again after being allowed into this country is facing up to 20 years behind bars.

Gheorghe Mihai launched a savage knife attack on his sister-in-law in Lye High Street, just months after arriving in the UK, Wolverhampton Crown court heard.

Fellow Romanian Gaman Bobi told Wolverhampton Crown Court that Mihai was drunk when he repeatedly stabbed 23-year-old Roxana Mihai. Mr Bobi told the court: "He told me he was going to kill someone and go to jail for 10 years. I thought he was joking because he had drunk too much."

It took the jury less than two hours on Monday to convict Mihai of attempted murder.

He was warned by Judge Amjad Nawaz: "You are somebody with a predisposition to act in a violent way and a lengthy sentence awaits you."

Danger

The case was adjourned so that a report could be prepared on the level of danger he represents to the public.

The 38-year-old defendant – locked up for seven years after murdering a man in his home country in 2006 – attacked his sister-in-law in August 7 after she interrupted a conversation he was having with her husband, his step-brother Nicursor Gheorghe.

Witness Kieran Langan said the defendant, who lived in Park Street, Lye, looked like 'a man possessed'. He continued: "He was in a rage. I could tell that she was scared. Then I saw him open his jacket and pull out a large kitchen knife."

Terrified Roxana ran away pursued by knife-wielding Mihai and he caught up with her on a car park behind High Street, stabbing her at least four times as she lay on the ground.

She suffered several knife wounds before her life was saved when her husband reached the scene and punched her attacker in the face.

The defendant had denied attempted murder and possession of an offensive weapon.

Fizzogs set sights on Hollywood



Dancing grannies, from left, Fizzogs Sue Hawkins, Jacky Fellows, Deb Nicholls and Emma Rollason

THEIR dancing grannies took the internet by storm but now Black Country comedy troupe The Fizzogs have their sights set on a big screen debut.

The Dancing Grannies have launched an online fundraising appeal to help get them to Hollywood. Money raised on The Fizzogs' Crowdfunder page will pay for a 'teaser tape', which can be shown to potential producers.

If this catches the attention of the right Hollywood bigwigs then the group are optimistic a movie could be on the cards.

The Fizzogs announced: "The Dancing Grannies are well known

on the internet, a viral phenomenon with over 350 million hits across social media. Over the last six months we have been developing a feature film script with award-winning writer/director Benjamin Field." Visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-dancing-grannies-help-us-get-to-hollywood

on the internet, a viral phenomenon with over 350 million hits across social media. Over the last six months we have been developing a feature film script with award-winning writer/director Benjamin Field." Visit www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-dancing-grannies-help-us-get-to-hollywood

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chance to quiz region's mayor

PEOPLE will be given the chance to quiz the Mayor of the West Midlands in Dudley. Metro Mayor Andy Street will be holding the latest of his 'Ask Andy' sessions at Dudley College Musical Theatre, at Dudley Evolve on Tower Street, on March 5.

He said: "This is your chance to ask me about the progress we are making as a region in transforming transport, housing and skills. These are exciting times for the West Midlands and I want many people to be at Dudley College so I can talk to them about how (this) will affect their lives." The event is at 7.15pm by ticket only. Visit eventbrite.co.uk for free tickets.

Kindon is speaker at charity dinner

FORMER Wolves star Steve Kindon is the guest speaker at a sportsman's dinner in aid of the Smile For Joel charity next month.

The event takes place at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill on Thursday, March 1.

Tables of 10 are £400 plus VAT with a former player from either Villa, Wolves, Albion, Blues or Walsall on each table. Contact Route 39 on 01902 244220 to book places.

The cause was set up in memory of the Black Country's Tunisia terror attack victims.

Singing to bring back memories

A SINGING group in Sedgley is helping people with dementia bring back memories and reconnect with loved ones by singing old favourite tunes.

The Salvation Army has launched a programme called 'Singing By Heart' for people with dementia. It uses a mixture of popular songs and hymns, each carefully selected to ensure they are recognised.

Singing By Heart takes place at the rear of All Saints Church hall in Sedgley. The next sessions run from 2pm to 3.30pm on February 26, then on March 26, April 23 and May 28.

Gravel helps giraffes keep hooves healthy

DUDLEY Zoo's three giraffes are keeping their feet neat following a fresh delivery of gravel.

Keepers at Dudley Zoo have spread 40 tonnes of gravel across the 40-acre site refreshing the giraffe and reindeer paddocks.

The loose chippings have an important use for the long-legged ungulates as it helps naturally wear their hooves down. Giraffes Kubwa, Josie and Kito have regular hoof inspections.

DON'T throw out costly cabinets when you can re-use them!
We Can Replace the Doors

Doors & More
Opening Times
Monday to Friday
10am - 5.30pm
Saturday 10 - 4pm
Closed Sunday

01384
293654

Modernise Your Kitchen

Lets make it happen this year - with the No.1 made to measure experts

Hurry Offer ENDS SOON!



NEW STYLES For 2018

www.iudk.co.uk

Next to Sainsburys - Wordsley Green Stourbridge

Buy 2 Get 1 Free

0800 088 7044

New Year Sale

Buy 2 get 1 Free

Over 40 Styles & Colours

Add Value to your home with our amazing concept

COUNTY NEWS

£10,000 boost for Legion appeal

SHOPPERS at Sainsbury's have raised £10,000 for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

The amount raised by customers at the Oldbury store in October and November helped raise the UK's 2017 total to more than £3 million.

Katy Bradshaw-Sole, store manager at Sainsbury's Oldbury, said: "Our community always get behind the Poppy Appeal and each year our customers and colleagues continue to dig deep for the charity."

"We are thrilled to have raised such a huge amount for the Royal British Legion and look forward to seeing what the future holds."

Number of falls at hospitals reduced

THERE has been a 30 per cent reduction in falls at Black Country hospitals. The Safety Plan, which was introduced at Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust in January last year, involves clinical staff completing 10 safety checks when assessing a patient.

Statistics show the number of falls resulting in an injury has decreased by 30 per cent a week as a result of the plan being implemented across the trust. Figures also show 99 per cent of patients are receiving all 10 checks within 24 hours following admission.

Chief Nurse Elaine Newell said: "This is all about our patients."

Airport trials aid for blind in toilet

BIRMINGHAM Airport has become the first in the UK to fit the revolutionary RoomMate, an audio description unit for the visually impaired, in one of its disabled access toilets.

It provides an audio description of the facility for blind and visually impaired users.

Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRM) Manager, Ed Kibblewhite said: "We have since invited several groups to trial the RoomMate with us and look forward to their feedback."

Club for older people is open on Fridays too

A LUNCH and social activity club for older people is opening an extra day each week - Friday - from March 1. Break Away, at the Royal British Legion, Summerhill, Kingswinford, is currently open on Mondays and Thursdays between 9am and 4pm. Anyone interested is welcome to pop in for a chat or can get information from Jenny Bates on 07487 404882.

Inquest hears fourth suspect arrested

A FOURTH man has been arrested on suspicion of murdering shopkeeper Jaskaran Kang, who was stabbed to death in a flat above a shop in Dudley.

The 24-year-old father was found dead at the property above the Mini Mart on Stourbridge Road, Dudley, in the early hours of Saturday, January 6.

An inquest into the death of Mr

Kang, from Handsworth, was opened and adjourned on Friday at Black Country Coroner's Court, where it was revealed he was stabbed nine times and died from a stab wound to the leg.

Detective Inspector Justin Spanner, leading the investigation, told the hearing: "Police were called at 2.29am on January 6 to a flat, which was one of three flats above Dudley

Wines (Mini Mart), to a male who had been stabbed. Upon arrival ambulances were already there. Jaskaran Kang was found there with nine stab wounds. An altercation occurred and he received stab wounds."

DI Spanner confirmed three people had been charged with murder and revealed that further suspects had been arrested including another man on suspicion of murder.

Coroner Zafar Siddique adjourned the inquest until the conclusion of the police investigation. Three people charged with murder have appeared in court, Reggie Salmon, 20 from Stourbridge Road, Dudley, a 17-year-old youth from Newcastle-under-Lyme, and Dontay Ellis, 18, of Central Drive, Lower Gornal. They are to appear at Wolverhampton Crown Court on March 16 to enter a plea.

Adrian calls for 'unity' after battle with cancer

By Luke Bartlett

AFTER being given just 12 months to live four years ago he defied all the odds. And now Adrian Webb, who is in remission, has helped launch a national cancer campaign.

Mr Webb, from Netherton, was diagnosed with skin cancer in September 2012 after a mole changed colour on his back. Despite undergoing surgery and radiotherapy, the cancer spread to his lungs, liver, spleen, bowel and spine. But after being given three brand-new drugs during treatment he survived.

Mr Webb, who was treated at Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, said: "I thought it was all over but I'm a positive person so once I'd stopped blubbing I just wanted to get on with treatment."

"I was fortunate enough to be given three brand new drugs over the course of the following two years and, incredibly, I can now say I'm in remission."

Future

"I don't know what the future holds but for now that means I'm cancer free. I have no doubt that Dr Steven and the university hospital's skin cancer team saved my life."

The three drugs are called Dabrafenib, Trametinib and Pembrolizumab. Since his diagnosis, Mr Webb, who has a daughter Amelia, 22, and a son Josh, 25, has raised almost £16,000 for Cancer Research UK.

He joined forces with Dr Neil Steven to help Cancer Research UK raise funds in the run up to World Cancer Day, by urging people to wear the Cancer Research UK Unity Band.

The band with a reef-knot design aims to symbolise the strength of people coming together to unite against cancer.

Mr Webb added: "Thanks to research I'm still here today, enjoying my family and doing all the things that are so dear to me. That's why I want everyone to wear a Cancer Research UK Unity Band on World Cancer Day."

"It's a fantastic opportunity to raise money for Cancer Research UK's life-saving research. Just by wearing a unity band everyone can help make a real difference to people with cancer."



Dr Neil Steven, left, and Adrian Webb promote Cancer Research UK's Unity Band

Dr Steven, deputy director of the Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit at the University of Birmingham, said he hoped the campaign would receive backing to raise funds for life-saving research projects.

He said: "Adrian is living proof of how far research has come in recent years - but there is still so much more to do. Every day, around 85 people are diagnosed with cancer in the West Midlands so by wearing a Cancer Research UK Unity Band, people can show solidarity with those affected by

the disease. As a cancer consultant, I know firsthand the impact the disease has on individuals and families. That's why I'm inviting everyone to be part of a movement that can help make a real difference to so many people's lives."

Though World Cancer Day took place on Sunday, the Unity Band is still available online, in pink, navy and blue at cancerresearchuk.org/support-us/donate/world-cancer-day or to make a donation visit www.cancerresearchuk.org/support-us/donate

Coach travel firm has gone into liquidation

A TRAVEL company that closed unexpectedly last month and left customers hundreds out pounds out of pocket has gone into liquidation.

Group Travel Limited, a coach firm based in Audnam, Stourbridge, announced it has appointed insolvency expert Paul Brindley.

A statement from the company, which also has a branch in Shrewsbury, said all customers owed money would receive a letter from the liquidator. It added: "If you have not received a letter from the liquidator by February 5, and you have paid for a trip or voucher you have not received, please call the liquidator. To all trade creditors, the letter from the liquidator should be with you by February 5. If you have not received it by February 8, give the liquidator a call."

Roy Dade, from Shrewsbury, had a trip cancelled in November and is still waiting for money to be refunded. The 58-year-old was supposed to travel to London with his wife to see Annie the musical but was told on November 4 it had been cancelled. Last month he was given £150 cash towards the £330 he was owed. He said: "Given that their customer base was largely seniors, there is something very immoral in the fact that they were still taking money from pensioners. I suspect they have been in trouble for much longer than it appears. It's a sad story really because we have booked a lot of trips with them over the years, but at least it looks like they're trying to do the right thing now."

Contact the liquidator on 0800 2315788.

Bikes petition will go to Parliament

A PETITION has been launched to crack down on nuisance motorbike and quadbike riders in Dudley.

Riders have using illegal bikes over Fens Pool and Barrow Hill Reserves in Pensnett.

Dudley South MP Mike Wood has launched the petition which will go before the House of Commons calling on police to take action.

He said: "I have launched this petition to try to stop these bikes that are causing damage to the nature reserves. They are a real danger to people who use them a nuisance to residents who live nearby."

"Once people have signed the petition, I will present it in Parliament and use it to get the police and council to do everything possible to put an end to these menaces."

TaxAssist Accountants
Local Accountancy and Tax Services for Small Business

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

- Self Assessment Tax Returns
- Business Accounts
- Corporation Tax
- Bookkeeping and VAT
- Business Start-ups
- Company Formations
- Payroll and RTI
- Help with CIS
- Fixed Fees

01384 371111

www.taxassist.co.uk/MelvynShepherd Melvyn.shepherd@taxassist

Winwood Court, Unit 3, Norton Road, Stourbridge DY8 2AE
Anglo House, Worcester Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire DY13 9AN 01299 519160

There is one small job that you have been meaning to do for years -

Make Your Will

Only **£95.00** (no VAT to pay)
Per person for couples, Mirror Wills.

Single Wills **£99.00** (no VAT to pay)
A home visit at a convenient time

For information and appointment call

0845 678 7010
Mobile: 07771 992717

Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Will Storage, Estate Planning and Guardianship Trusts
Goodwills also offer probate services
Members of the Society of Will Writers

Goodwills Legal Services Ltd
www.goodwillsmidlands.co.uk

GREENLINE

www.greenlinecoaches.com
greenlinecoaches@aol.com

TORQUAY MON 19TH MARCH

NETHWAY HOTEL

ENTERTAINMENT, EXCURSIONS

HAPPY HOUR

5 DAYS £199

01384 44 44 64

LUXURY EXECUTIVE TRAVEL
"SETTING THE STANDARDS IN PASSENGER COMFORT & CARE"
A FAMILY CONCERN

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP Austin lands electric cars role

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin has been appointed as vice chair on a parliamentary group working on policy for electric and automated vehicles. The group brings together manufacturers, businesses, media, organisations and experts to share information, promote awareness, and debate about future low-carbon transport technologies. The Labour MP – who recently visited Westfields, the Dudley-based car company that is developing new electric and driverless vehicle technologies – said he wants the Black Country to benefit from the jobs that these new technologies will generate.

Mind chosen as law firm's charity

A LAW firm has unveiled its charity of the year – and has opted to keep it local. Higgs & Sons has picked Dudley Mind as its charity for the next 12 months. Mark Evans from Dudley Mind said: "We are so grateful. Dudley Mind is a local mental health charity that aims to improve and promote recovery and wellbeing for people in the Dudley borough affected by poor mental health." Higgs & Sons has presented a cheque for more than £22,000 to the NSPCC, their 2017 charity of the year.

Glassboys vs Albion in charity quiz night

THE Glassboys will take on the Baggies in a charity version of popular TV quiz A Question of Sport. Stourbridge Football Club is hosting the event in aid of Mary Stevens Hospice at its War Memorial Ground, Amblecote. A Charity Question of Sport on April 5 at 7.30pm will feature legends teams from Stourbridge FC and West Bromwich Albion. Tickets costing £8 are on sale and includes fish and chips supper. Call (01384) 377778 to book. Funds raised will support the Stourbridge hospice.

Full house at Erasure show in Birmingham

POP duo Erasure have sold out their entire UK tour including a concert at Birmingham's O2 Academy on Sunday. Andy Bell and Vince Clarke have had a string of hits since the 1980s, including A Little Respect, Sometimes and Victim of Love, and next month release their orchestral new album World Beyond. Support on their tour comes from Bright Light Bright Light.

Literature festival has highest yet attendance

A RECORD number of people attended this year's Wolverhampton Literature Festival. More than 6,200 people took part in almost 100 events across more than two dozen venues.

Events included children's storytelling, workshops, theatre and performance, literature, poetry reading, music and art talks.

The three-day festival, which ran from January 26 to 28, saw award-winning writer and journalist Will Self headline the celebrations.

A total of 98 events took place across 26 city venues during the event, which saw a major increase in attendance compared to the 2,000 who visited last year's inaugural festival.

Councillor John Reynolds, Wolverhampton council's cabinet member for city economy, hailed the 'tremendous' festival and said he is delighted it will be returning.

Councillor Reynolds said: "The feedback has been very positive and, thanks to Arts Council England funding, we can now look to build on this success in 2019 and for years to come."

The festival was made possible after the council teamed up with the University of Wolverhampton and the Express & Star. It was funded by an Arts Council England grant to Wolverhampton Libraries.

Canal watch plan for the waterways

STEPS are being taken to ensure historic canals across the West Midlands are kept safe and secure.

A neighbourhood watch scheme is being launched by the Canal and River Trust with West Midlands Police to ensure that the canals remain 'quiet, tranquil places' and to deter crime.

It is called Canal Watch and the increased number of people choosing to live and work by the water will be able to sign up to it to receive police updates and free crime prevention advice.

If successful it will be rolled out nationwide.

To sign up to receive information, create an online account at www.wmnow.co.uk website.

Male voices needed

CRADLEY Heath Male Voice Choir is seeking new members aged from 16 up.

They can go along to Dudley Wood Methodist Church for choir meetings on Mondays from 7.30pm.

No Velo this year, new route in 2019

THE Birmingham Velo will not be held this year, organisers have announced, after the event divided opinion in the Black Country and Staffordshire last year.

The event will instead return in 2019, when it will be moved from autumn to spring and see cyclists tackle a different route.

The ride was held for the first time in September but attracted criticism from residents and business owners due to road closures in parts of the Black Country, Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Birmingham.

Saboteurs left nails and tacks on the route, including in Bobbington and Swindon, putting the safety of riders at risk.

Details of next year's route are yet to be revealed but will be announced in the coming months, event organisers said.

Around 15,000 riders took part in the 100-mile route last year, in what is believed to be the UK's second biggest closed-road cycling event ever. It raised £2 million for charity.

Participants rode from Birmingham city centre through Sandwell, Dudley, South Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

The 2019 event will take place earlier in the year when there is more daylight, the organisers say.

Jon Ridgeon, chairman of event organisers CSM Active, said: "It was clear to us that some changes would be necessary if the event was to reach its

long-term potential. Together with our partners Birmingham City Council, we are determined to ensure that this wonderful event continues to develop and evolve.

"The move from September to the spring, along with the new route, will provide us with a fantastic, sustainable long-term platform from which to grow in years to come."

Councillor Ian Ward, leader of Birmingham City Council, said: "The 2017 event was a huge success for Birmingham. The benefits of major events are well known and our cycling strategy is clear – we want to get the Midlands cycling and we plan for Velo Birmingham to become a key legacy project as we build towards the 2022 Commonwealth Games."

Homes, shops and pub planned at brickworks

A FORMER brickworks site is set to welcome a major retail and leisure development alongside 200 homes – despite concerns from retail giants into Merry Hill and Morrison's.

The area in Stallings Lane, Kingswinford, that was formerly occupied by Ibstock would include an Aldi, Iceland and Majestic Wine alongside a gym and pub.

The 18-acre scheme will also include space for 365 cars.

However, following a public consultation, concerns were raised by retail bosses about the impact on existing shops.

A statement from intu Properties PLC says: "The application does not properly assess the impact of the proposals on the vitality and viability of the Brierley Hill Strategic Centre or local centres within the vicinity of the site."

A contribution of £30,000 to pay for consultants to undertake an assessment of potential improvements to highway junctions in the area has also been requested by council bosses.

The plans have been recommended for approval, subject to conditions, and were being considered by Dudley Council this week.

Plans were submitted by brick making giant Ibstock alongside fellow applicants Helical Retail and Hawkins.

Jobs

A council document published ahead of the meeting states: "This application would result in the redevelopment of a brownfield site which is allocated for housing and mixed use, positively contributing towards the regeneration of the borough, the delivery of much needed housing, council tax, new homes bonus and jobs."

A document submitted to the council on behalf of the applicant reads: "Tansey Green represents a significant opportunity to deliver a mixed-use development which responds to local retail, leisure and housing needs. The scheme unlocks major economic, social and environmental benefits."

The proposed development, if approved, would be constructed on the opposite side of Stallings Lane to Pensnett Trading Estate.

MP leads way for faster broadband



Stourbridge MP Margot James, with Kim Mears from Openreach and Cox & Plant MD Andy Cox and workers

THE vast majority of homes and businesses in the Black Country can now access 'superfast' broadband. Internet speeds have been boosted by a roll-out of the technology by the Government and Openreach.

The Government has achieved its target of ensuring 95 per cent of the country has access to the

faster connection. The level is even higher in the Black Country, including up to 99 per cent in Halesowen and Rowley Regis.

Stourbridge MP Margot James, the Government's digital minister, visited storage firm Cox & Plant in the town, which has benefited from faster broadband. She said the task was to ensure every-

one who has access to superfast broadband knows how to get it. She added: "All they have got to do is contact their provider."

Andy Cox, managing director at Cox & Plant, said superfast broadband had made a huge difference to the efficiency of his company as poor technology had been a real 'barrier to growth'.

ADVERTISEMENT

Has Your Double Glazing Steamed Up?

Established for over a decade Cloudy2Clear windows have become a leading company for glass replacement. Issues with double glazing can often be gradual and may only be noticed during a clear sunny day or during the winter. A failed glass unit may no longer provide you with the protection you need or be energy efficient. Why not spend a few minutes checking your home to see if you have any

failed double glazing? If you act now you can avoid these problems.

Now, you may think you need to replace the whole window including the frames and all the hardware, however Cloudy2Clear have come up with a simple and cost saving solution... Just replace the glass!!

If you see condensation in your windows just visit our website or give us a call on 0800 61 21 118. We will send out our highly

experienced engineers for a free no obligation quote. A Cloudy2Clear quote takes on average no longer than 20 minutes. Once the quote is completed, we will sit down with you and explain the problem and tell you how we can fix it. With years of experience Cloudy2Clear have a wealth of knowledge and are recognised as a Which Trusted Trader, plus our work is backed

by an industry leading 25 year guarantee. Cloudy2Clear also replace faulty locks handles and hinges on all windows and doors.

Your friendly local Cloudy2Clear specialist is Brian Stanley and he services Stourbridge & the surrounding areas.

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118.



Cloudy2Clear Windows... Service With A Smile!

Cloudy2Clear Are A...

Which? Trusted Trader

All Glazing Backed By Our

25 YEAR GUARANTEE

Priority Freephone

0800 61 21 118

www.cloudy2clear.com

Broken Or Damaged Windows? Faulty Locks, Handles, Hinges? f t

IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



It's just criminal to penalise for 31mph

IF a pollster stopped you in the street and asked about your priorities for crime and policing, what would you say?

Violent crime? Putting away more burglars? Getting tough on anti-social behaviour, vandalism, and graffiti?

Or maybe you would reply: "All of these things are important, but I understand that in these days of stretched resources you can't do everything. So what I would really like is to catch motorists for doing 31mph."

I suspect the latter represents something of a minority viewpoint. But last week, just days after recording a 13 per cent rise in overall crime, and a 16 per cent increase in violent crime, the chief constable of West Mercia Police decided the burning issue was petty speeding offences.

Actually I suspect he knows full well that is not the view of the public. But there seems to be a culture among the higher echelons of most of our public services these days that their role is not to implement the will of the people, but to "change our attitudes and perceptions."

If we think burglary or yobbish behaviour is more important than straying fractionally over the speed limit, then we are clearly in need of a bit of education. Worked a treat in the old Eastern bloc.

Indeed, Mr Bangham says he wants to create a climate where the public feels embarrassed rather than aggrieved when being hit with a speeding fine, and up to a point I agree. But I think this approach will do exactly the opposite.

Think about how different attitudes to speeding were 30 or so years ago. Learner drivers were told it was ok to do up to 35mph "to keep up with the traffic", and police usually allowed people a margin of 10mph before stopping them.

But the thing was back then, if you did get caught, it really did mark you down as a bit of an idiot. Everyone knew you were driving irresponsibly and deserved all you got.

If we start penalising every single driver who strays one mph over the limit – which is basically every single driver – that stigma is gone. It becomes nothing more than a lottery, putting the self-centred boy racer in the same bracket as the little old lady on her way to a whist drive.

Mr Bangham has now sought to "clarify" the recent comments, and assures us officers will not be targeting drivers for trivial speeding infringements after all. Good.

Because if everyone is liable to be done for speeding, where's the embarrassment in that?

Getting in a state over a visit from US President



Stephen Fry – how much of this anger is genuinely about Trump



Donald Trump – how many demonstrators would turn out anytime to bash America



Lord Adonis – sneering at entire city and dancing on grave of a stricken company?

Playing Trump card – or just snobbery?

STEPHEN Fry is leading the campaign for "the most incredible protest in history" when Donald Trump makes his state visit to Britain. But how much of this anger is genuinely about Trump and how much is simply the latest manifestation of the anti-Americanism which has been festering in British society ever since we lost the War of Independence 235 years ago? It is a sneering snobbery, based on the conviction that European nations are civilised, wise and cultured while America is vulgar, brash and far too powerful. At its heart it is all about old nations envying the success of a new nation. And I wonder how many of the "anti-Trump" demonstrators would turn out at any opportunity to bash America, no matter who was the president. One of our national treasures said in an interview 10 years ago: "When they mock America for its supposed lack of knowledge, irony or sophistication, they are revealing nothing but the pathetic inadequacy and inferiority complex of the British. I absolutely hate that sneering anti-Americanism." The national treasure? Stephen Fry, since you ask.

A READER asks why it is that the latest cooking fad, Himalayan salt crystals, have lain "undisturbed beneath the mountains for one hundred million years" but come with a "best before" date of December 2018.

ONE or two old softies took me to task for suggesting serial burglars should be taken into a field and shot. I wonder whether this week's report on the armed raider known as the Night Watcher who is targeting homes in southern England, terrifying householders and stealing their valuables changes any minds. Simple question: would the world be a better or a worse place if Chummie was no longer with us? Anyway, if he really is a soldier he'll understand

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



the concept of the firing squad.

MY RECENT item on sneering at Americans reminds me of a pal who has recently had facial surgery and complains that, because of the stitches, he can no longer sneer with both sides of his mouth. My research suggests that he probably never could. Try it. Curl your lip into the sneeriest sneer you can manage and then try it with the other side of your mouth. It seems most people are one-sided sneerers. The explanation may be that, once you start sneering in childhood, you choose one side and the muscles on the other side "forget" how to curl. I dare say there are ambidextrous sneerers but I have yet to meet one.

I WROTE recently about how a friend and I had different memories of the same event, a trip to the North Pole. A reader is reminded of his amazement in discovering that he had been at the same 1980s David Bowie concert in Milton Keynes as a lifelong friend. It turned out they both remembered the heat, the expensive bottled water and the four-hour delay in leaving the car park. But both had forgotten a significant fact. My reader went home and related the amazing coincidence to his wife who replied with a mixture of bemusement and pity: "Yes, I drove us all down in the car."

DID you spot the symbol the stars wore at the Grammys to show their solidarity with the campaign against sexual harassment? It was a

white rose which also happens to be the symbol of Britain's right-on capital of liberal, gender-neutral and progressive thinking. Yorkshire. Put that kettle on, luv.

YOU may be aware that Lord Adonis, unaccountable architect of the detested HS2 and unelected crusader to overturn Brexit, is not one of my favourite people. He reinforces that status with his infamous recent tweet: "Wolverhampton, political base of Enoch Powell in the 60s and a huge Leave majority, is HQ to just one large company, Carillion!" Strange man. He seems to be sneering at an entire city while simultaneously snarling at Brexiters and dancing on the grave of a stricken company. They ought to put him in a circus for crotchety old people. But then that's exactly where he is.

I AM coping with this new online spell-check but it does make some odd connections. Who, in the name of sanity, thinks when I type "someone's" I may have intended to type "Simeon's"?

YOU have to admire the brass neck of Thomas Cook in blatantly turning sunbeds from a holiday entitlement into a paid-for extra. We were presumably supposed to cheer the travel firm's introduction of guaranteed, pre-hired sunbeds at holiday resorts. 'The end of the battle for the sunbed' crowed one headline. But at £22 a time? It is outrageous. How long before they start charging you for a seat in the dining room?

AFTER the death of Ikea founder Ingvar Kamprad was announced, I received a flurry of emails from folk joking that he ought to be buried in a flat-pack coffin. Maybe I'm getting old but it struck me as in rather poor taste.

TALKING POINT



No honey, I'm just being nice – not sexist

"THAT'S £3.50 please sweetheart."

"Thanks love, have a good day."

That could be a scene from any retail outlet at any time of the day. Yet how far can we go with pleasantries?

I ask, because walking through the centre of Wolverhampton, I encountered a hand-written notice. "A word of kindness can make someone's day."

The sentiment I wholeheartedly agree with, but not everyone may take your compliments the right way.

One rail commuter took to Twitter to express her disgust over what she called rude and misogynistic behaviour by a rail company official who had the cheek to address her as 'honey.'

Feeling patronised, she condemned the alleged put-down as 'everyday sexism'.

The company's reply – instead of an explanation or apology, she was asked if she'd prefer to be called 'pet' or 'love' next time – was probably ill-advised, but this only serves to act as a warning to others who may be easily offended by terms of endearment.

The company did apologise for what it had intended to be a light-hearted response and, while I do believe the commuter had a genuine complaint to make about the level of service, I personally think she should get a grip.

In an age when we are told that chivalry is dead, I wonder whether the same woman would complain if a 'gentleman' let her on or off the train first or held the door open for her.

From my own point of view, I have no problem with anyone I am dealing with calling me 'sweetheart', for example, they are only being polite after all. I wouldn't express the same platitudes in return as affectionate terms are only reserved for my other half. But their words will be appreciated and I will always be civil – I think please and thank you should be key words in everyone's vocabulary.

However, this brings me back to the sign in Wolverhampton, who's to say no-one would be offended if I did call someone 'darling' for instance?

As a bloke dishing out niceties to a woman there's always the possibility that your intentions could be misread. If I tell someone their hair looks good that day or their outfit suits them, I would expect most right-minded people to take that as it is, a compliment.

We all like to be told something good about ourselves and I think one ought to tell, during face-to-face interaction at least, whether someone is being sincere or sinister. It's sad that some people can't always see it that way.

MARK SHIPP

SAFELY ACCESS YOUR LOFT!

for only £399
Fully Fitted

This price is for a standard height ceiling with an lift door, width 22-30"

Manufactured to ISO 9002 Standard

• We provide a convenient and safe way to access your loft.

• Each ladder has a 10 year parts guarantee and can be installed in approx. 2-3 hours.

• We offer a loft boarding service if required at an additional cost.



JAKES' LADDERS
The Local Distributor & Installer for
For more information visit: www.stira.co.uk

Facebook: [jakesnladders](https://www.facebook.com/jakesnladders)

CALL TO ARRANGE A FREE QUOTE
T: 01952 282152 or 07817 431505

Halesowen Fireplaces

AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

Complete Fireplace Packages from £499

(including fire)



360°
VIRTUAL
TOUR NOW ON
WEBSITE

For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds
visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985



Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate,
Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

Garden Supplies Direct

Great Spring Offer!

6 bags
£25.00



FREE
DELIVERY

Ambassador Multi-Purpose Compost 40 litre

2018 Catalogue Out Now!

Call or Email For Your Free Copy!

FREE Delivery To Your Door!

Call Paul on 01562 741820

or mobile 07704 346506

gardensuppliesdirect@blueyonder.co.uk

www.paulsgardensupplies.co.uk

THE SHED SHOP

Established 27 Years

6ft x 4ft T&G Sheds from £240

Concrete slotted post now at £9

Concrete gravel boards now £9

6ft x 5ft overlap heavy duty fence panels £15

Railway Sleepers £16

Continental Panels in stock

Post mix 20kg bags £4.50

A wide range of fence panels available

All Products for immediate delivery

Public & Trade Welcome

Special Offers Also Available

01384 482 542 /

07920 885 774

www.dudleyshedshop.co.uk

Sensible cycling on A449 please!

I DROVE north up the A449 on Friday afternoon and signalled to turn right into Holbeche House.

I waited until there was a gap in the traffic from Himley traffic lights and started to turn right into the site. I caught sight of a cyclist riding on the pavement coming in the same direction as me, so I stopped to let him past.

I waited for another gap in the traffic then started to turn again. This time I got a bit further across the road when two more cyclists appeared out of my

blind spot going in the same direction as the first one, but much faster.

I had to stop half way across the path of the traffic now coming towards me, who also had to stop or they would have crashed into me. If I had carried on I would have crashed into the cyclists.

Why were three middle aged men cycling on the pavement at that time of day (14:30)?

Did they not realise that they could have been faced with a vehicle coming

out of Holbeche? Why were they not on the road? Why were they riding so fast?

They could have easily met a pedestrian on the pavement coming out of Holbeche round the corner where they met me. Lack of common sense and foresight.

Motorists cannot be aware of cyclists if they cannot see them even if they are wearing high viz jackets.

MOLLIE BERRY
Stourbridge

Disgrace – disgusted at state of town centre

I WONDER, does anyone from Dudley Council ever bother to walk along High Street, Dudley, from Union Street up to Top Church?

If they did, I would hope they would be as disgusted as I am with the state of the place.

The post box on the corner is an absolute disgrace. Surely Royal Mail could be approached and asked for a clean-up.

The next eyesore is the pile of stuff outside the old McDonald's restaurant.

The amount of various goods stretches for several feet and is an absolute disgrace.

I could go on, but for goodness sake, someone please take a look at the area I am referring to and arrange for a clean-up.

MRS L SHELTON
Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

EMAIL

dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Code of Practice:
Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a



story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Make the bosses pay for Carillion failure

THE Government has a great chance to show that they are the rulers of the country – if they have the nerve.

Sack all of the senior managers and directors of Carillion, pay them up until the end of December 2017, freeze all bonus payments and pensions due, and ban them from working in the construction industry for life.

If they can, try to find a way to recoup some of the money that they have already been paid too.

Then pick and choose new directors and make sure that they work for us – the public.

PETER COLE
Kingswinford

We will lose our place at Euro table

WITH Brexit discussion proceeding at a pace the type of deal we are likely to get is more apparent.

The UK wants full access to the single market, for which we will have to pay a fee. We want to be part of the customs union, which might also incur a fee, in addition to which we must also be subject to the European courts of justice. We want close ties with financial institutions, technology and development, free movement of trade and personnel to suit our needs.

It seems to me that the best deal is so close to being full members of the EU that we might as well not bother leaving at all.

If we leave we will lose our voice in Europe, we will lose our rights to veto any policies we find are against our interests and we will no longer have access to EU funding or loans. Will we really be better off outside?

MICHAEL CLIFF
Wall Heath

ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKISTS OF CARPET IN THE COUNTRY

Over 200 Part Rolls

ALL LESS 50%

At STD we have the best fitters and we are NEVER undercut on price

SALE NOW ON



	Was sq yd	Now sq yd
Apollo	£9.95	£7.95
Majesty bleach cleanable.....	£13.95	£9.95
Sensations Heathers.....	£16.95	£12.95
Waterproof bathroom carpet....	£18.95	£8.36
Contract wilton	£18.95	£8.95

Plus many more great offers

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK
9.00 to 5.30;
Sunday 10.30 to 4.00;
Closed Wednesdays

10% OFF
All end rolls with
this voucher

Open 6 days a week 9.00 to 5.30
Sunday 10.30 to 4.00 Closed Wednesdays

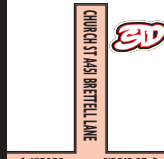
Church Street, Brierley Hill DY5 3PT

TELEPHONE:

01384 76448

www.stdcarpets.com

BRIERLEY HILL



CONTEMPORARY & ELEGANT

Bi-fold doors

Fitted Aluminium or uPVC

From **£1800** fitted



VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY



Full Range of the
Latest Composite Doors



From **£550** fitted

ENTERPRISE GLASS & GLAZING Ltd

of Brierley Hill

Enterprise Glass and Glazing Ltd are based in the Brierley Hill area of the West Midlands and since the early 1980's have built a reputation as a leading installer of quality windows, conservatories and doors direct to the public.

MISTED UNITS?

Replacements,
Glass cut to size...
Telephone today
Free Quotation

01384 571217

*Design & Service
You Can Trust!*



Find us at: **Vine Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1JE** Telephone: **01384 571217** and talk to us today
Fax: **01384 571427** Email: **sales@enterpriseglazing.co.uk** www.enterpriseglazing.co.uk

SEASONAL SAVINGS

Call us now



- Top Quality A Rated Products At Great Prices
- Yale Locking Systems
- Swish Window & Door Systems
- Payment On Completion
- Full 10 Year Guarantee
- No Deposit Required

Make the right choice for your new windows, conservatories, orangeries and porches.
Carera do not use high pressure salesmen, it has had the same owner since it opened in 1989. Call them now for your **FREE** no obligation quotations. Our visit takes approximately 20-30 minutes
Visit our large beautiful showroom with all products on display for a warm welcome



Proud to have worked with



WINDOWS · DOORS · PORCHES · ORANGERIES · CONSERVATORIES



24, Junction Rd, Audnam, Stourbridge DY8 4YJ

Telephone: **01384 442 490**

www.carerawindows.co.uk





COMPETITION

All aboard for a Peppa Pig fun journey

PEPPA PIG and her friends are back in a new live show Peppa Pig's Adventure, featuring a new story, lots of songs and heaps of fun!

Join Peppa as she gets ready to go on an exciting camping trip to the woods with George and her school friends, including Pedro Pony, Suzy Sheep and Gerald Giraffe.

With lunchboxes packed and Daddy Pig driving the bus, Peppa and her friends are excited about their outdoor adventure, full of games, laughter and live music!

The happy campers soon settle down to sleep and listen to the gentle pitter patter of rain. Safe and warm inside their tents the excited group can look forward to morning time, when there will be lots of muddy puddles to play in.

The show is coming to a theatre near you and Chronicle readers have the chance to win a family ticket, with seven up for grabs. The show is due to stop off at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre on Saturday, April 7 and Sunday, April 8.

Richard Lewis once again takes the helm for this new live stage adaptation of eOne's animated TV series which he directs and has adapted for the theatre.

He has also adapted and directed the four previous Peppa Pig live stage shows, Peppa Pig's Party, Peppa Pig's Treasure Hunt, Peppa Pig's Big Splash and Peppa Pig's Surprise.

The show features music from BAFTA award-winning composer Mani Svavarsson. Audiences will enjoy interactive fun, songs and games



HOW TO ENTER

To be in with a chance of winning a family ticket simply answer the following question.

Who is driving the bus?

Send your entry to Peppa Pig Competition, Chronicle editorial department, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES, with your name, address and contact number. Usual rules apply. Closing date: Thursday, February 15.

Tickets are subject to availability. Transport is not included. Tickets are non-transferable. A family ticket may not exceed people and must include at least one adult.

with Peppa Pig and her friends. Peppa Pig's Adventure promises to be the perfect theatre show for all pre-schoolers. Suitable for age three plus.

To find a venue near you: www.peppapiglive.com

QUALITY KITCHEN FACELIFTS

A fresh approach to a new kitchen



Est. 1999

why replace when you can reface?

- Trusted reputation
- Made to measure custom-built doors and units
- Door swaps to full kitchens - tailored to your needs



BEFORE

DREAM DOORS®
NEW LIFE FOR OLD KITCHENS

www.dreamdoors.co.uk

View our credentials on

Checkatrade.com



Call Gary For a Free Estimate

01384 466991 dy@dreamdoors.co.uk

26 Lower High Street, Stourbridge, DY8 1TA

Make the **RIGHT** decision this Winter and give **RYDALE** a ring...

RYDALE WINTER SALE



Valeting Services now available to restore all your uPVC products. Guttering and Driveways valeting available.

Windows, Doors, Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias and Soffit Boards



Order a conservatory or full house of windows and you will get a full valeting service on your guttering or windows or conservatory totally FREE.

No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Supplied & Fitted... across the Midlands

Repair Service Available



Replace the existing roof on your conservatory and create a comfortable environment and a room you can use all year round



Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.



MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON FEBRUARY INSTALLATIONS

FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060 www.rydalewindows.co.uk Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS

Open Weekdays: 9am to 5.30pm
Saturday: 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed

After 36 Years of Trading, there really is no one else in the Frame

**WE WILL
BEAT ANY
LIKE FOR LIKE
QUOTATION***
(T & C's apply)



We are a professional, family run, local company installing quality windows, doors, conservatories and orangeries. We pride ourselves on our high quality standards and that we can offer all our customers total satisfaction on whatever you need.

Wombourne Windows™

ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES

For more information call us now on

Freephone 0800 085 8518

or visit our website at www.wombourne-windows.co.uk

Morlock House, Bridgnorth Road, Wombourne, South Staffs WV5 0AL

Showroom Opening Hours Monday - Thursday 10am - 6pm, Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday 10am - 4pm, Sunday 10am - 2pm

**Authorised and regulated by the financial conduct authority. We are a credit broker not a lender. We offer credit facilities from one lender.





Malvern Joggers at the Stourbridge Stagger, Mary Stevens Park

Run hailed another staggering success

HUNDREDS of runners braved muddy conditions in a gruelling 10-mile event.

Around 500 people took part in the Stourbridge Stagger race on Sunday, tackling the 'multi-terrain' course. Those leading the event said the day had been a 'success' and plans were already in the pipeline for it to return next year.

Race director Ian Clarke said: "It was a success. The course was testing and there was some tight racing at the front. People come back year after year to do it. I think they just like the course. If the marshals are friendly and encouraging the runners appreciate that."

Mr Clarke said the £10 charge for the event was not to make profit. He added: "It is peanuts really. We do it because we want to give something back to the sport. It will be back next year."

● See more pictures online at expressandstar.com

Arrest over death of long-serving 11 ambulance worker in a collision

A MOTORIST has been arrested after an ambulance worker was killed in a crash at a busy junction in Wyre Forest.

Tributes have been paid to Gavin Hunt, aged 52, who was in the ambulance service for more than 20 years.

The technician was travelling with his wife on the A456 near Kidderminster at around 7.20pm on Friday when his Perodua Nippa car was involved in a smash with a Lexus, where the A road met the B4202. His wife survived and was in a stable condition in hospital.

A 45-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving and has been released as police investigations continue.

Mr Hunt joined Hereford and Worcester Ambulance Service in 1997 and joined front-line operations three years later.

He never had a day off sick and was due to be presented with his 20-year medal at an awards ceremony in March.

West Midlands Ambulance Service chief executive Anthony Marsh paid a glowing tribute to Mr Hunt, who was based at Kidderminster.

He said: "Gavin was truly dedicated to the ambulance service and has helped thousands of patients during his career."

"I saw first hand not only how deeply upset staff were at the scene but also how incredibly hard and professionally they worked with police and fire colleagues."

£100m in support for firms hit by Carillion

Report by Simon Penfold

CONTRACTORS hit by the collapse of Wolverhampton-based construction and support services giant Carillion will be able to apply for Government-backed loans as part of a £100 million support package.

Business Secretary Greg Clark said the British Business Bank will support high street lenders to give loans to small and medium-sized businesses and individuals owed money by Carillion. Three high street banks have agreed to provide support worth almost £250m.

Mr Clark said: "We want to signal very clearly to small and medium-sized businesses who were owed money by Carillion that they will be supported to continue trading. The banks have responded to my request by agreeing to support businesses and individuals affected."

Mr Clark's department said the latest round of support will be of benefit to small businesses including the chain of subcontractors to Carillion. The Government has set up a task force involving business and unions to support firms and workers affected by the collapse of Carillion.

Its liquidation left in its wake a £900m debt pile, a £590m pension deficit and hundreds of millions of pounds in unfinished public contracts. It comes after more than 2,600 construction companies became insolvent in the last financial year, with more facing problems because of the collapse of Carillion, according to a new report.

Over the past week it has been announced that 820 staff would be made redundant with 919 other Carillion jobs saved as others took on their contracts.

Dudley people affected by the firm's collapse have been urged to call into drop-in sessions at three neighbourhood centres for advice. Staff will be on hand at Castle & Priory Neighbourhood Learning Centre in Limes Road, Dudley, from 9am to midday every Monday. They will be at Brierley Hill Neighbourhood Learning Centre in Hill Street, Brierley Hill, from 1pm to 4pm every Wednesday. Staff will also be at Dudley Wood Neighbourhood Centre in Dudley Wood Road, Dudley, every Friday from 9am to noon.

People can also contact the team by calling 01384 818143 or 07799 070974, or emailing adultlearning.dachs@ Dudley.gov.uk

Grilled

Meanwhile, former Carillion boss Keith Cochrane was among a string of executives being grilled by MPs on Tuesday. The former head of defunct construction giant has admitted he should have acted sooner before its collapse.

Mr Cochrane, who is among a string of executives being grilled by MPs, claimed all the decisions he took were in the best interests of the company. But he added: "Clearly the business did have issues – undoubtedly. And clearly, do I wish we had done something about it sooner? Absolutely. I recognise that."

"I can assure you that all the decisions I took in seeking to do the best thing for the business at that juncture."

Former finance chief Zafar Khan denied being 'asleep at the wheel' and expressed his surprise over the firm's liquidation.

"No, I don't believe I was asleep at the wheel because as soon as I came into the role, we were looking to tackle the issues and the key focus of my time in the role was to bring net debt down," he said. "I believe I did everything that I could have done, essentially. I was surprised at the outcome that eventually came to pass."

**For the FINAL WEEKS of our Winter Sale...
EXTRA discount & special end of Sale offers
plus, a pay nothing until Spring 2019,
low deposit, interest free credit option!***



Contemporary dining
Cool & stylish high
gloss & marble
dining sets

**INTRODUCTORY
OFFER**

From as little as

£329



Virginia Collection
Classically styled corner group
including stool & scatters
WAS £1249 SALE ~~£949~~

**EXTRA
discount price**

£799 SAVE **£450**



Stylish contemporary bedframe
Retro styling, in black*
or rose gold finishes
* WAS £499 SALE ~~£399~~

**EXTRA
discount price**

£329 SAVE **£170**



WILLIAM & SONS

www.williamandsons.co.uk

Level Street, Merry Hill, Dudley West Midlands DY5 1UA T. 01384 77444

OPENING TIMES:

Monday - Friday 10-5.30pm

Saturday 10-6pm

Sunday 11-5pm

0% APR Representative *Low deposit Deferred Interest Free Credit option available on all orders over £500. All balances must be paid in full by the end of the first twelve months after delivery or collection as highlighted at the time of purchase. Written details available on request. Credit is subject to status. Terms & Conditions apply. Price Match Promise Terms & Conditions apply. Ask in store or see our website for further details. All offers subject to availability E&OE.

AKAI BRAUN BOSCH Breville CARMEN DeLonghi dyson Elgento Feibank itek KENWOOD



BATHROOM
SCALES
FROM £10



KETTLES
FROM £10

TAKE AN
**EXTRA
10%**
FROM ANY
KETTLE AND
TOASTER SETS
ON PRODUCTION
OF THIS ADVERT



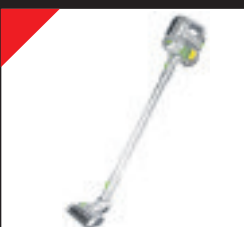
TOASTERS
FROM £10



FAN
HEATERS
FROM £10



MORPHY RICHARDS
SODA SYSTEM
FROM £10



MORPHY RICHARDS
CORDLESS VACUUM
ONLY £60



RADIATORS
FROM £10



MICROWAVES
FROM £25

TAKE AN
**EXTRA
10%**
FROM ANY
MICROWAVE ON
PRODUCTION OF
THIS ADVERT

**LOOK
TOWER
3 PIECE
PAN SET
ONLY
£20
WHILST STOCKS
LAST**



Ceramic Non Stick
Pans suitable for
gas, electric
and induction

**WHY THE
FUNNY FACE?
WHOLESALE
PRICES DIRECT
TO PUBLIC**



KITCHEN
ACCESSORIES
FROM £10



SENSOR
BINS
ONLY £25

ALL OFFERS AVAILABLE ON PRODUCTION OF THIS ADVERT



LARGE HALOGEN
OVENS
ONLY £35



RECORD
PLAYERS
FROM £35



AIR
FRYERS
FROM £50



STOVE
FIRES
FROM £40



FIRE PLACE
SUITS
FROM £99



FRIDGES AND
FREEZERS
FROM £150

www.kettleandtoasterman.co.uk

SERIOUSLY GREAT OFFERS INSTORE - NO JOKE!!

Kettle and Toaster Man

TRADE WAREHOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Unit 2C, Albion Works, Moor St., Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3SZ

Tel: 01384 483 286

Est. Over 20 Years * OPEN: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 8am-12pm

We specialise in finding you the best deals available on daily basis. We stock electrical and other amazing retail products at up to 90% off the normal retail selling price.

SH



Offers expire 10th February 2018. T&C's apply

It's a boy for tennis champion Jordanne

WORLD champion tennis player Jordanne Whitley MBE has given birth to a baby boy.

Her son Jackson Nigel McCarroll was delivered on Tuesday, January 30, at 3.30pm, weighing 7lb 13oz.

Jordanne, from Halesowen, has won ten tennis wheelchair titles, but has taken a break from the sport whilst expecting her first child.

The 25-year-old first announced she was pregnant in July, less than two weeks after winning her fourth doubles title at Wimbledon, alongside Japanese team mate Yui Kamiji.

Jordanne uploaded a photograph to her Instagram account announcing she had given birth, which featured a photograph of her partner Mark McCarroll, also a wheelchair tennis player, holding their son.

She wrote: "I am so proud to introduce you to our son Jackson Nigel McCarroll, born today at 15:30 weighing in at a healthy 7lb 13oz. I can't believe he's finally here. He's absolutely perfect."

Proud

Jordanne's parents Keith and Julie are delighted to be grandparents. Her father Keith, 69, who is also a former Paralympian, said: "We are really proud of Jordanne. Jordanne is completely over the moon. The baby looks a lot like Marc, which he is really happy about."

Jordanne was 11 weeks pregnant last year when she won the wheelchair women's doubles title at Wimbledon. It was the ninth grand slam doubles title show won. She has also won the Australian Open twice, the French Open twice and the US Open twice. She won the grand slam singles title at the US Open in 2015.



Jordanne's partner and coach Marc McCarroll holds their baby son Jackson and champion Jordanne is pictured enjoying her tennis success



Jordanne has also won a bronze medal at the 2012 and 2016 Paralympic Games. She was awarded her MBE in the 2015 Queens Birthday Honours. Jordanne was born with brittle bone disease, which her father Keith was also born with.

Her partner Marc, 32, who is also her coach, won the wheelchair British Open in 2014.

Marc, who was born to a family of athletes, used to play for Arsenal. But he was injured in a car accident in 2003 and took up wheelchair tennis two years later.

Jordanne's father revealed she has plans to get back into tennis. He said: "Jordanne is looking at whether she wants to get back to tennis. It will be a hard task but she will try."

Splashing Out on a New Bathroom?

"Our company is owned and run by local tradesmen meaning the work is carried out properly and on time. We strive to keep our prices as low as possible in order to keep within the budgets of retired, disabled and working families which make up 95% of our customers"

Our Prices won't Burst your Bubble



FEBRUARY & MARCH FITTING DATES NOW BEING RESERVED

EXAMPLE FULL JOB FOR £3950

90x90 Quadrant Cubicle with low level tray
15 SQM Wall Tiles
Tiled Floor
Replacement Shower
New Basin & WC

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR OUR RETIRED & DISABLED CUSTOMERS

DISABLED SPECIAL

Are you having problems getting in & out of your bath? We will remove the Bath & Fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle & Tiled inside.

Supply a new replacement shower
A Folding Seat & Grab Rail

ALL FOR ONLY £2150.00

TRADESMEN OWN & RUN THIS COMPANY

VAT FREE IN QUALIFYING CASES

WE PROMISE A VISIT & AN 'ON THE SPOT PRICE' WITHIN 48 HOURS OF YOUR CALL
(Daytime & Weekend visits a pleasure)



WE DO THE LOT IN 5 DAYS

YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre,
Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford DY6 7SH

01384 287222

Showroom also at: 39, Lichfield Road,
Wednesfield, Wolverhampton WV11 1TW

01902 861908

www.yourchoice-bathrooms.co.uk

SHOWROOMS OPEN 9am-5pm 6 Days a Week



Worcestershire Prostate Awareness Group

(Registered Charity: 1162929)

Patron: Lord Faulkner of Worcester

FREE P.S.A. BLOOD TEST FOR MEN AGED OVER 45

**Fairfield Hall,
Stourbridge Road,
Fairfield,
Bromsgrove.
B61 9LZ**

**Saturday
24th February
2018
9.30am to
1.00pm**

HERE'S A CHANCE FOR YOU TO CHECK THE HEALTH OF YOUR PROSTATE

To arrange a test please phone:-

07522 504300

Sponsored by The Worcestershire Ambassadors

ENJOY YOUR CONSERVATORY ALL YEAR ROUND!

TOO HOT IN THE SUMMER AND TOO COLD IN THE WINTER?

An insulated, tiled warm roof from 4 Seasons will allow you to create a room you can use all year round which will be cozy in winter and comfortably cool in summer.



- 4 Seasons warm roofs are a family run company specialising in conservatory roof upgrades.
- Upgrading your existing conservatory roof with a new luxury 'tile effect' roof will effectively turn your old conservatory into a new one that you can use all year round!
- Our roofs are designed to suit all styles and sizes of existing conservatories.
- Roof plastered internally to high standard.
- Reduces noise and energy bills
- The complete upgrade only takes 2 to five days with minimal disruption to your household.
- So what are you waiting for, call us for a free quotation.

BEFORE



AFTER



4 SEASONS WARM ROOFS
CALL NOW FOR FREE QUOTATION

CALL: 0800 433 7925

Website: www.4swr.co.uk



Duncan Edwards and Bobby Charlton in the Nesscliffe team of 1957, with Brian Griffiths, front row, centre

I was team-mate of legend Duncan

IT was a tackle he wasn't going to forget in a hurry. When Derek Thorpe's army football team took on their neighbouring regiment, his sergeant-major warned their opponents had one or two tasty players in their side.

Early in the game, the nippy young winger found himself dispossessed by a strapping defender playing for the other side, and decided to pay him back.

"He tackled me early on, and I thought 'I'll have you next time'," recalls Derek, now 81. "I landed about two yards further up the pitch than I did the first time."

That player was Duncan Edwards. By the time he turned out for the Royal Army Ordnance Corps team, based in Nesscliffe, near Shrewsbury, he already had three England caps under his belt, and Derek remembers being in awe of the power, skill and speed of the great man.

"Him and Bobby Charlton were both in the same team, and they really stood out," he said. "I thought Duncan Edwards was better than Bobby Charlton, and I later read that Bobby also thought he was."

While Charlton would go on to taste World Cup success and enjoy a long, glittering career, Edwards' life would tragically be cut short as a result of the Munich air crash.

Refuel

It is 60 years this week since the disaster tore apart Matt Busby's legendary 'Busby Babes' Manchester United team which had blazed a trail for English football in the newly formed UEFA Cup. On February 6 1958, the chartered British European Airways plane had stopped in Germany to refuel, and crashed as it attempted to take off for its final leg of the journey.

Of the 44 people on board, 23 were killed. Charlton was one of the survivors. Edwards was one of eight United team members who died from injuries sustained during the crash.

"They were such great lads," added Derek. "Duncan was from Dudley, and I was from Dawley, so the lingo was pretty similar. After he had knocked me flying with his tackle, he came over to me, and said 'you all right, kid?'"

Derek, who was a regular with the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry (KSLI) at Copthorne Barracks, says he would regularly play against the Manchester United stars during their National Service in the mid-1950s.

"Because they were just up the road, we would play each other a lot," he said. But Derek recalls the games were often one-sided affairs, with the KSLI lads beating the Nesscliffe team on just one occasion, adding: "They were a cut above the rest," he added.

Also in that team was Brian Griffiths, a full back for Shrewsbury Town. Like many professional footballers from the Midlands, he was posted to Nesscliffe for his National Service so he could continue to keep playing for his club. "Duncan was already there," said Brian, aged 83. "He was a cor-



The aftermath of the plane crash on the Munich runway 60 years ago



Busby Babe Duncan Edwards



Nesscliffe team-mate Brian Griffiths



Rose Cook-Monk and Dudley North MP Ian Austin with the book of remembrance

poral. He was a smashing lad. He was not aggressive, and his football capabilities were just unbelievable."

Brian says he wife Iris stayed in touch with Edwards's mother Sarah-Anne after the star's death, adding: "She was very proud of him."

To commemorate the disaster, a book of remembrance has been handed over in the German city. It has been presented to the minister of the Church of St Peter near Manchesterplatz, a street near the airport named in honour of the club. It is now on

public display there. Rose Cook-Monk, who has made a film about Duncan's life, visited the scene of the tragedy and witnessed the opening of a memorial garden on the airfield, which is now disused.

She said: "It was emotional to be there and see the departure lounge they all left from," she said. "I didn't want to come out without Dudley being mentioned so myself and the Mayor of Dudley Councillor Dave Tyler came up with the idea of the people of Dudley remembering Duncan."

Guest's talk centres on travellers

Wollaston E TWG

THE well-attended January meeting was presided over by chairman Julie Willetts, who wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Unfortunately, the December meeting, to have incorporated the Christmas party, had to be cancelled. Hopefully a summer party will be held instead.

Apologies were read, followed by the minutes of the previous meeting, which were duly passed and signed. The treasurer gave a favourable report regarding the financial situation, but had a busy time returning monies as a result of the cancelled Christmas party.

The choir was thanked for participating in both the guild's own carol service and that of the Federation at St Thomas' Church, Stourbridge. Money collected at the guild carol service and the January meeting will be donated to the Birmingham Teenage Cancer Unit.

Speaker for the evening Sally Gurney gave an exact definition of the term 'travellers', augmented by details of the places they lived, problems arising and solutions to these problems. The interesting talk was followed by a question and answer session after which Mrs Gurney was thanked by the chairman and members.

Raffle prizes went to Joy Cooke, Gill McKenzie and Sue Llewellyn. Pat Archer won the competition. The next meeting is at 7.30pm on February 13 at St James' Church Hall, Wollaston.

Dressed for success as pantomime dame

New venue and day as meetings start for 2018

Grange E Guild

GRANGE (E) Guild will hold its first meeting of 2018 in a new venue of St Peter's Centre, Pedmore Lane, Pedmore, Stourbridge on Tuesday, February 13.

Meeting dates have been changed from the first Tuesday to the second Tuesday in the month.

There is no speaker for February but guild member Jacqueline Hill will entertain members with a quiz which is always good fun. Small prizes will be awarded to the winners.

The sales table will consist of bottles and cans and there will be the usual monthly raffle.

If any ladies would like to come along as a guest to find out what Townswomen's Guild is all about, they are welcome to come along to the meeting next Tuesday at St Peter's Centre. They will receive a very warm welcome and maybe meet some new friends.

For further information call the secretary Jean Williams on 01384 832439.

Amblecote History Society

AT the January meeting, members and visitors watched with great anticipation as Richard Wescott transformed himself from a well-presented gentleman in a suit into a pantomime dame.

He explained the way he completed the different stages of facial make-up he used to give the colourful appearance of a dame.

Giving an interesting account of the years he spent playing this part, he completed his transformation with different sequinned costumes, high heeled shoes, brightly coloured necklaces, earrings and large wigs. His talk was very interesting and entertaining with plenty of jokes and interaction with the audience who joined in wholeheartedly.

The next meeting is on February 14 at 7.30pm, in the Furnace Theatre at the Ruskin Glasshouse Arts Centre, Wollaston Road, Amblecote.

Stourbridge professional artist Geoff Tristram will give a humorous talk titled '40 years watching paint dry'.

Geoff tells his story from a scatterbrained ten-year-old with a colour biro, to the mature professional artist and occasional comedy writer that he is today. His presentation shows work for Penguin Books, Embassy World Snooker, the BBC and his famous Ravensburger Jigsaws. It will feature many amusing anecdotes.

Visitors are welcome for a £3 fee. The society is pleased to announce it has a new website www.amblecote.org giving more information.

Macabre and humorous tales

THE next meeting of the society takes place tonight (Thursday), at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street.

Popular local historian and author Ian Bott will present an illustrated talk guaranteed to grip the imagination.

He will look at the Black Country's way of death through macabre and humorous

Sedgley Local History Society

stories - many associated with beautiful parish churches. There are inscriptions on headstones and memorials, tales of 'body snatchers' and many anecdotes. Visitors are invited - cost is £1.

BORSHCH

Gas & Electrical Superstore

PEAR TREE LANE, DUDLEY

DY2 0QU • 01384 571 879

OPEN MON-SAT 9.30AM - 6PM • SUNDAY 10.00AM - 4PM

Cooking

RANGE COOKERS

SINGLE OVENS

GAS COOKERS



FROM ONLY £379.99



FROM ONLY £149.99



FROM ONLY £179.99

Laundry

TUMBLE DRYERS

DISHWASHERS



FROM ONLY £109.99



FROM ONLY £139.99

Refrigeration

CHEST FREEZERS

FRIDGE FREEZERS

LARGER FRIDGES



FROM ONLY £109.99



FROM ONLY £149.99



FROM ONLY £299.99

Integrated Appliances

INTEGRATED HOBBS

INTEGRATED WASHING MACHINES

INTEGRATED FRIDGE FREEZERS



FROM ONLY £79.99



FROM ONLY £199.99



FROM ONLY £179.99

FREE STANDARD DELIVERY

ON PURCHASES OVER £150.00 WITH THIS VOUCHER
VALID UNTIL
SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2018

OTHER BRANCHES IN...

BIRMINGHAM
Upper Trinity Street
Birmingham B9 4EG
0121 773 6361

WALSALL
Unit 17-19
Victorian Arcade WS1 1RE
01922 279927

ERDINGTON
1-41 Sutton Road
Erdington B23 6QH
0121 448 0202

Extended guarantee available • Members of Retra • Pictures for illustration purposes only • Prices subject to availability • Sirius Retailer of the Year 2012



www.borshchelectric.co.uk



DESIGNED | PLANNED | INSTALLED

THE ONE STOP SHOPPING | EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR

NEW KITCHEN / BATHROOM AND BEDROOM

Serenity
KITCHENS & BATHROOMS



COME AND VISIT
US IN STORE TODAY



EXAMPLE JOB

- Shower enclosure or bath
- New shower/basin/wc
- 15 sqm wall and floor tiling
- Debris removed

Only **£3850.00**



DISABILITY SPECIAL OFFER

We have a good history of working with clients who have trouble using their bath

- New shower and folding seat and grab rail
- Receive a new easy access shower
- Tiled inside

Only **£2150.00**

ageUK RECOMMENDED

DUDLEY Dawley Trading Estate | Stallings Lane | Kingswinford | DY6 7AP

Call us on 01384 279 997

Email: info@serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk

www.serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK | SUNDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Webster's of Wollaston

01384 396517

Est.
50
years

ORDERS TAKEN NOW for Valentine's Day

Deliveries or Collection
from 7am-6pm
Order early to avoid disappointment

"DON'T FORGET"

Balloon and cards in stock

We have moved next to
Graham's Place,
Bridgnorth Road
DY8 3PZ

Telephone: 01384 396517



BRETTELL LANE STOVES & FLUES



Visit our huge display of OVER 76 STOVES and 18 Demonstration Models

- All leading manufacturers
- Expert Advice
- All work carried out by our own installers
- FREE Quotations

Tel: 01384 263290

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
Just 1 mile from Merry Hill
Open Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
Unit H, Emms Court (right at the end),
Meeting Lane Ind. Estate, off Brettell Lane,
Brierley Hill DY5 3LB



or see our new website www.westmidlandsstoves.com

FINAL STOCK CLEARANCE

www.geoffhillltd.co.uk
SALES LINE

01384 395852

SUPPLYING THE WEST MIDLANDS FOR
OVER 50 YEARS AND STILL OFFERING
BEST SERVICE, BEST PRICE,
BEST CHOICE.

7 HIGH STREET, AMBLECOTE,
WEST MIDLANDS DY8 4DE



Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7 am-5.30 pm, Sat 7-4.30 pm
127 Bridgnorth Road, Stourbridge DY8 3NX
Tel: 01384 395460

WIN!

£25

Closing date 16/1/18

TO SPEND WITH ANY ADVERTISER ON THIS PAGE!!!

To be in with a chance of
winning all you have to do is
answer the questions in
this panel and send in your
answers to the address
on the coupon.

**FOR
ONE
WEEK
ONLY!**

- Where can you pick up your beautiful Valentine's bouquet?
- Who is the supreme pork pie champion?
- Who has fabulous February deals?
- Who has a huge range of styles for your new fitted bedrooms?
- Who has 10% off all full grooming during February?
- Who has 76 stoves and fireplaces on display?

Susan Jones Competition Stourbridge Chronicle Closing Date 16/1/18
Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury, West Midlands B69 4DG

Mr/Mrs/Miss First Name Surname

Address

Postcode Tel No Email

I have read the rules and agree to abide by them. Signature

I would like to spend my prize money with

Rules: Entrants must be 18 or over. Closing date for entries is 16/1/18. The winner will be notified by post. The first correct entry opened after the closing date will receive the prize. There is no cash alternative to the prize. The prize will be issued in cheque form made payable to the advertiser as chosen by the winner. Once issued the cheque cannot be altered and must be cashed within two months of receipt. Employees or their immediate relatives of the MNA group of companies may NOT enter. The Editor's decision is final. The winner must be prepared to take part in any publicity.

4 PETS WHO KNOW A GOOD THING!

**WE ARE A
CAGE FREE
SALON**

**FREE
PICK UP &
DROP OFF**

10% OFF

All Full Grooming during February
(not open to existing discounts)

The only place I would take my boy. Gary and the team work their hardest to get their furry clients smelling and looking their best, would never dream of taking my pup anywhere else. The team ask on your arrival how you would like your fur baby cut and how long or short you wanted them cut, they are so friendly to talk to and very welcoming. Well done Gary and team. Chip loves you all. The best, most trustworthy place to send my two boys for daycare... Ronnie and Pancake love coming to play... I'd recommend to anyone. Thank you all the team for looking after my babies.

217 HIGH STREET, LYE, DY9 8JX
CALL GARY: 01384 891008 / 07557 648100
WWW.POSHKUTZ.WEBLY.COM

MARTYN 4 NEW IDEAS

GET A QUOTE TODAY
01384 482662
07802 451232

- BEAUTIFUL BEDROOMS
- VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
- FAMILY RUN BUSINESS
- FULL DESIGN & FITTING
- WE VISIT YOU OR COME ALONG TO OUR SHOWROOM IN BRIERLEY HILL
- HUGE RANGE OF STYLES

Visit our Website
www.martyn4newideas.co.uk
and see lovely bedrooms
made just for you

Professional Tree Surgeon

Established in 2002, Timber Tim Ltd is a Professional Tree Surgeon based in the West Midlands and dedicated to providing the highest levels of tree services, customer care and satisfaction for a variety of individuals and organisations in the West Midlands.

We specialise in the following

- Trees Felled, Dismantled & Reduced
- Stump Grinding
- Storm Damage Repair
- 24-Hour Callout Service

- Local Authority Contracts
- Site Clearances
- Free No Obligation Quotes
- Fully Insured

Mobile: 07970 618 998
Tel: 01384 594 270
Web: www.timbertim.co.uk Email: tim@timbertim.co.uk

Bring Parliament to Midlands, says MP

A BLACK Country MP has called for Parliament to be brought to the West Midlands.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin has backed calls to move Parliament out of London – to ‘force the metropolitan elite’ to find out what life is like outside of the capital.

The Labour MP called for an example to be set by moving the MPs and Lords out of London.

Mr Austin said: “Parliament badly needs refurbishment and unlike other countries we’ve got government, Parliament, business, finance and the media all concentrated in London, so let’s set an example and move Parliament to the West Midlands in the middle of the country.”

“I think that would take pressure off London’s overheated economy and imagine how moving government to the regions could help bring new investment and new jobs to areas like the Midlands.

“Most important of all, it would force the metropolitan elite ruining the government and the civil service to listen to the rest of us and find out what life is like outside London.”

Mr Austin has previously moved a Parliamentary Bill proposing to move 100,000 civil services jobs from London to the regions.

Artist Corran adds colour to comedy



Artist and designer Corran Green from Kingswinford

ARTIST Corran Green has made a colourful splash on stage with her unique scenery designs.

The 19-year-old from Kingswinford was asked to produce the backdrops for the Fizzog comedy group’s production of The Wicked Wizard of Fizzog.

Her distinctive artwork provides a vivid addition to the successful show whichon tour around the Midlands.

Corran initially became involved with the Black Country production company through a drama workshop in Stourbridge but eventually chose art and design ahead of stage performances.

She said: “I took part in some of the Fizzog shows and my main claim to fame was when I appeared as the front end of a cow.

“It was such great fun working with them. Producing the scenery was a challenge but I tried to create something which reflected their off-beat way of presenting their show.

“Art is my main passion. With my best friend Ryan Suzuki, we are developing our own brand of T-shirts and prints and I am also working on other commissions.”

Mall’s new room for disabled shoppers

A NEW Changing Places room has been opened at the intu Merry Hill shopping centre. It means people with severe disabilities can now utilise the new assisted-access toilet and changing facilities installed at the Brierley Hill centre

The room is intended for shoppers with profound and multiple disabilities but will also cater for people with other physical and non-visual disabilities who require extra equipment and space in a safe and comfortable environment. It differs to intu Merry Hill’s standard and accessible toilets with features that include an adult-sized changing bench and features enough room to accommodate a disabled person and up to two carers. In addition there is also a height adjustable sink and a hoist to help users out of their wheelchairs.

Changing Places on the upper mall near Debenhams was officially opened by Neil Davies, chairman at Dudley Voices for Choice.

Shock figures for children carrying blades at school

SWORDS, axes and machetes are among the 260 weapons seized in schools by West Midlands Police.

Shocking figures show how many blades were picked up from schools over the past six years.

In Wolverhampton, 25 were taken by police, 20 in Walsall, 21 in Sandwell and 14 in Dudley. These include flick

knives, machetes and daggers. The children caught with weapons include three 10-year-olds.

The data obtained by the Liberal Democrats shows the range of reported crimes from schools. They include malicious wounding and even an attempted murder.

Chief Constable Dave Thompson said he was concerned some young people were carrying knives as a form

of protection. He said an education programme, involving schools and youth clubs, needed to be rolled out.

Liberal Democrats campaigner Rob Quarumby said: “No child should be walking down the corridor of a school with a blade in their pocket. These kids are robbing knives from mum’s kitchen drawer or a screwdriver from dad’s tool shed that could, potentially, take a life.”

Street hits the roads to back charity run

WEST Midlands Mayor Andy Street will be hitting the roads after signing up to a 10k charity run. Mr Street will take part in the Black Country Road Run in and around Halesowen on July 1.

He said: “I am very much looking forward to taking part in this event. Not only will it be a great event for runners but will also raise money for many good causes in the Black Country and beyond.”

Corin Crane, chief executive of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce, added: “It is great to see the Mayor stepping up and taking on this mission for charity. I would encourage local businesses to get involved in the new Corporate Challenge.”

See theblackcountryrun.com website for details.

Putting your pet first
Vets4Pets
West Bromwich
0121 567 3250
139 Hill Top B70 0RZ

**OUT OF HOURS
SERVICE**

Committed to bringing your pets high quality care at affordable prices



£70
Consultation Fee

MON TO FRI 7PM-9AM
SAT 5PM-10.30AM
SUN 3.30PM-9AM

- Convenient Parking
- Telephone advice
- Link to sister practice systems
- Familiar friendly team from sister practices
- No surcharge on consumables or procedures
- Modern well equipped practice

Merry Hill
Vets4Pets
Putting your pet first

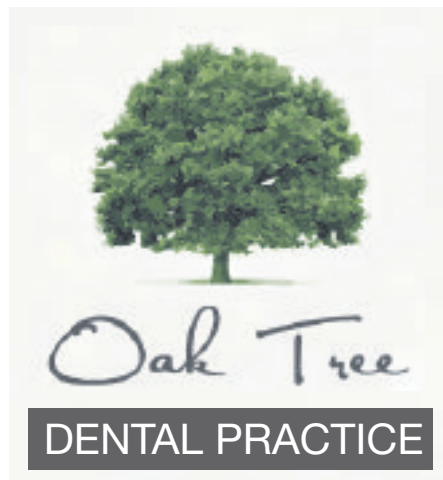
Inside Pets At Home,
The Merry Hill Centre
Station Drive, Brierley Hill,
DY5 1SY
01384 480 698

**Companion
Carevets**
Oldbury

Inside Pets At home,
Oldbury Green Retail
Park, Oldbury
B69 3DD
0121 270 2282

West Bromwich
Vets4Pets
Putting your pet first

139 Hill Top,
West Bromwich,
B70 0RZ
0121 567 3250



**78 Bridgnorth Road
Wollaston
Stourbridge
DY8 3PA**

OAK TREE

DENTAL &
IMPLANT
PRACTICE

**Please call reception to
book your first NHS visit
01384 37 25 25**

**TAKING
ON NHS
PATIENTS**



www.oaktreedentalandimplant.com



IT'S A MONSTER OF A FAMILY MUSICAL

INSIDE

THEATRE + MUSIC + PUZZLES + TV GUIDE



Tuesday 13th February
AN EVENING WITH
DAVE WILLIAMS

PSYCHIC NIGHT

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Thursday 1st March
EVERYONE WELCOME

Disco & Function
Room £100

Sammy
"Blues & Country"
Night

Live Music from the
Symbollics

Amazing keyboards
& guitar duo
Ken & Terry

Saturday 2nd March
Burger and a pint
£4.50

**WELCOME TO THE
SAMSON & LION**

CANALSIDE PUB IN STOURBRIDGE

Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley, Stourbridge, DY8 6SP 07930 473482

WWW.SAMSONANDLION.CO.UK

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
INCLUDING BANK HOLIDAYS**

Sun - Thur: 5.30pm - 11.00pm,
Fri & Sat 5.30pm - Late

**VALENTINES BOOKINGS
Now Being Taken**

NEW DELHI

Indian Dining & Takeaway

All major credit and
debit cards welcome

113 Worcester Road, Hagley, Stourbridge DY9 0NG
01562 885050 www.newdelhi-restaurant.co.uk

FOOD HYGIENE RATING

5

VISA Electron SWITCH Mastercard Maestro Visa

Twitter Facebook



It's all happening
BIRMINGHAM

Arena
BIRMINGHAM

GENTING ARENA



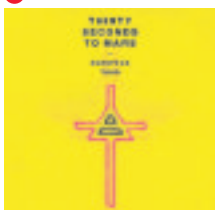
25 Feb 2018



17 Mar 2018



27 Mar 2018



29 Mar 2018



13-15 Apr 2018



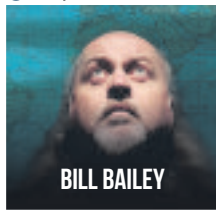
27 Apr 2018



1 May 2018



10-13 May 2018



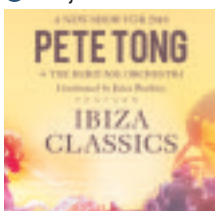
2 Jun 2018



20 July 2018



3-7 Oct 2018



28 Nov 2018



8-11 Mar 2018

GENTINGARENA.CO.UK ARENABHAM.CO.UK theticketfactory.com

The fairytale where the ogre is a hero

Ninety minutes. Every day. That's how long make-up artists take to transform Mid-Wales actor Steffan Harri into the nation's favourite ogre – Shrek.

The show is back on the road for an extended run, including shows at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from February 14 to 25.

The performances follow a record-breaking UK and Ireland Tour, during which it earned rave reviews.

Shrek the Musical is based on the story and characters from the Oscar®-winning DreamWorks Animation film.

The hilarious and spectacular production turns the world of fairytales upside down in an all-singing, all-dancing, must-see musical comedy.

Shrek and his loyal steed Donkey set off on a quest to rescue the beautiful Princess Fiona (Laura Main) from her tower, guarded by a fire breathing love-sick dragon.

The fun gets serious with the vertically challenged Lord Farquaad, a gang of fairytale misfits, and a biscuit with attitude, creating an irresistible mix of adventure, laughter and romance that is guaranteed to delight audiences of all ages.

Steffan loves it: "I was over the moon to be given the part. I toured with Shrek and was an understudy to Lord Farquaad. When I got the call to do the lead role this time, I was playing in Les Miserables. It doesn't get much different from that to this. But I jumped at the opportunity. I was keen not to go back to the part of Farquaad because I'd done that. I thought it would be good to have a go at Shrek this time and a few auditions later they gave me the job. I was over the moon."

He laughs when he remembers how he learned he was going to take the starring role. He was at work and it was about 7pm, half an hour before he was due on stage in Les Miserables in the West End. "It was incredible. I went on stage still buzzing from the news. That show was a bit of a whirlwind. But I do love Shrek the Musical. Not only is the music absolutely brilliant and a pleasure to sing every night, the show also has a book that is so funny and witty."

In some respects, Shrek is like a pantomime. It's designed equally with parents and children in mind – with some gags going over the kids' heads and causing mirth among their parents.

"You're right. It's not just for the kids it's for the adults as well. The dads who are dragged for the Saturday matinee come out laughing because of the Lord Farquaad material. The kids don't really get that."

Steffan is well-versed in the original 2001 Shrek movie, having enjoyed the best-selling computer-animated fantasy based on William Steig's 1990 fairy tale picture book of the same name. He enjoyed the voice overs from Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz and John Lithgow – not forgetting the equally enjoyable sequels.

"I'm 26 now so I was about 10 when it came out. I remember quite vividly going to the Welshpool Solar Cinema to watch it. When I got the job, I went back to watch the film. It really is brilliant." Shrek is a real feather in Steffan's cap.

Some day my prince will come –
Shrek and Princess Fiona



After all, he's still only 26 and is already leading the line in major touring productions. He learned his trade in a quite backwater, Caereinion, in Mid-Wales, near Welshpool.

"They didn't offer drama at Caereinion High School so I looked elsewhere and Theatr Maldwyn came about in year 7-8. I learned a lot from the three teachers there and that helped me massively. That made me look elsewhere and that's when I decided to do drama and gained a place at the Guildford School of Acting. It was a fantastic school and I had the best three years there learning some fantastic skills. Now I'm out working – and that's when the real learning starts."

Steffan is thoroughly enjoying his career. He's striking out, making a name for himself and taking up opportunities that come his way. "It's great and there's such variety – literally, from Les Miserables to Shrek."

"This part is totally different to everything I've ever done before. I have a 90-minute make-up call every day so that I can be fully transformed with prosthetics. After that, I have to put on the costume

The dads who are dragged for the Saturday matinee come out laughing

and that weighs an additional 45lbs." Once all that is done, he's transformed and ready to play the ogre. He has created his own interpretation of Shrek from scratch, putting his own stamp on it.

"It's unusual to go out when you're so heavily made up. After the show, I go out of the stage door onto the street and pass people who've seen the show and they have no idea that it was me. But the anonymity doesn't mean I don't connect with Shrek – I do. OK, so Lord Farquaad steals a few scenes, but Shrek is completely believable. He has to be."

Life is moving quickly for Steffan and he's looking forward to starring at a major theatre in Birmingham so early into his career.

"I never thought I'd be leading a show at the age of 26. It's a great honour and I've very fortunate to them for giving me the opportunity. But there's a lot more that I'd like to do. I'd love to do straight drama and TV as well. I've done a bit of TV back in Wales on S4C and I would love doing more and see where it takes me. I'd like to work again in London again too. Working and being happy and healthy is as much as I can ask for and I'm very grateful that I have these opportunities."

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.



Inheaven – turbocharged riffs



Indie rock fans will be Inheaven for arts centre gig

SOUTH London indie rockers Inheaven bring their turbocharged riffs to Wolverhampton's Newhampton Arts Centre (NAC) on Tuesday.

The quartet built around the instant hooks and striking vocals of guitarist James Taylor and bassist Chloe Little were snapped up by the Cult Records label, run by The Strokes' Julian Casablancas.

Their self-titled debut album was released last September including the single Regeneration. The

band have since released an acoustic EP and a new track for the new year, Sweet Dreams Baby.

There's another major indie rock night at the NAC, on Dunkley Street, next Friday, February 16, when one of Birmingham's top bands, JAWS, top a triple bill also featuring Synthetic Recipe and Tinned Astronaut.

Gigs tonight (Thursday) include Nightmares on Wax at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath in support of new album Shape The Future, and satirical rockers Half Man Half Biscuit with The Humdrum Express at the Robin 2 in Bilston.

Got those cigar box guitar blues



Smethwick guitar maker and musician John Wormald – aka Chickenbone John, The Godfather of The Cigar Box Guitar – is back again with Boxstock, the UK Cigar Box Guitar Festival.

Following the success of last year's event at the Slade Rooms, the festival returns to the Wolverhampton venue for more homemade blues-busting guitar on Saturday.

In a time when money's too tight to mention, just like the old days, some hard-up musicians have gone

back to the traditional approach of literally making their own entertainment by making their own instruments.

Seasick Steve helped bring this humble instrument to worldwide attention. As he doesn't do many UK dates these days, here's an opportunity to catch some real roots music on your own doorstep.

Heading the bill are Blackriver Bluesman and Bad Mood Hudson, a heavy metal duo all the way from Finland. After being the success of last year's event, the festival has brought back the Dusk Brothers from Bristol and super-busker Bemuzic from Cambridge.

During the daytime Chickenbone John, pictured, will be leading workshops on how to make cigar box guitars and powerhouse one-man band Hollowbelly will be leading sessions on how to play the cigar box guitar.

During these daytime sessions there will also be plenty of traders selling their handmade instruments, plus open mic sessions for those who feel ready to perform.

It's also an ideal way to find out more about the alt-blues music scene.

Tickets for the evening gig are £14 but admission is free at the Slade Rooms from noon to 5.30pm.

Ballet is a beauty in the Russian style

The curse of a wicked fairy means a beautiful princess falls into an enchanted sleep which can only be broken by a prince's kiss. Enter the opulent world of Imperial Russia for one of the grandest ballets with a score by Tchaikovsky and choreography by Marius Petipa. The Sleeping Beauty is a highlight from the Birmingham Royal Ballet repertoire on a par with The Nutcracker. The Sleeping Beauty is at Birmingham Hippodrome from Tuesday to Saturday, February 24.



Comedy nights with reality TV bridegroom

There's a funny week coming up with several top comedians in the area. Canadian stand-up Bobby Mair, as seen on Russell Howard's Good News and 8 Out Of 10 Cats, is at Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms tomorrow night (Friday). Last year Bobby – apparently a distant cousin to Justin Beiber – featured on a reality TV show about his wedding to fellow comic Harriet Kemsley. Bobby And Harriet Get Married was shown on the Viceland channel. Bobby will be back in the region at Bromsgrove Artrix on February 17 and Birmingham Glee Club on March 9.

Next Thursday (Feb 15) Alun Cochrane is at the Slade Rooms. A TV regular, Alun is also co-host of The Frank Skinner Show on Absolute Radio. The master of puns and one-liners Milton Jones is at the New Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham on Sunday.

Local Events for Local People



Valentine's

"Let's dance and dine, this Valentine"

Join us at Delhi Divan to help make your night magical and special. A champagne cocktail awaits you upon your arrival followed by a lover's feast

Appetiser: Poppadums with Relishes

Starter: (Choose 1) Valentine's Special Mix Platter For 2, Chicken Tikka, Lamb Chops, Mushroom, Surprise, Onion Bhaji, Veg Pakora, Fish Pakora

Mains: (Choose 1) Romeo & Juliet Sizzling Nawabi, Chicken Tikka Masala, Sylheti Jalfrezi, Dhaba De Gosht

Side Dish: (Choose 1) Sag Aloo, Mushroom Bhaji

Accompaniment: (Choose 1) Mushroom Rice, Pilou Rice, Fried Rice, Peshwari Naan, Plain naan, Garlic Naan, Cheese Naan

Dessert: (Choose 1) Cheese Cake, Chocolate Fudge Cake

Book Now to avoid disappointment

£15.95pp

148 High Street, Brierley Hill, DY5 3BP

t: 01384 77 150 | w: delhidivanbrierleyhill.co.uk

ASHWOOD NURSERIES

NURSERY | TEA ROOM | GIFT SHOP | GARDEN CENTRE

John's Garden Charity Open Day
Saturday 10th February
10am-4pm | £5 entrance

Hellebore Tours
Saturday 17th February
£2.50 each

All proceeds donated to
WINGS in Wombourne
For further information please
call us or visit our website



WWW.ASHWOODNURSERIES.COM

Ashwood Lower Lane, Kingswinford, DY6 0AE | 01384 401996

Winter Opening Hours: Mon to Sat 8.30am – 5pm & Sundays: 9am – 5pm





Tom Garrison

Lost Pyramids of the Maya (Channel 4, 8pm)

The Mayan civilisation is now sadly consigned to the history books, but its legacy resonates strongly within our own to this day – whether it's elements of architecture still found within Mexico and Central America, ancient prehispanic sites scattered throughout the region, or in the plotlines of Hollywood movies (for some reason we're preoccupied with misinterpreted Mayan prophecies of armageddon). This documentary utilises exclusive access to the results of a huge scientific research project to learn more about the ancient civilisation, revealing fascinating insights into a people who remained largely hidden within the jungles, and transforming everything we thought we knew about the Maya.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** BBC News: Weather. **12.30** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day two from PyeongChang, South Korea. **2.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v France (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.00** Songs of Praise. **5.35** Celebrity Mastermind. (R)

6.05 BBC News.

6.20 Regional Programme.

6.30 **Countryfile.** Ellie Harrison and Matt Baker visit Cambridgeshire, where a project is underway to turn a quarry into a safe reed bed habitat for one of the UK's rarest birds, the bittern. Richard Taylor-Jones witnesses a spectacular display of wildlife. Adam Henson meets a young farmer in the New Forest, and Tom Heap discovers how Bill gates is making the most of British agricultural expertise.

7.30 **Still Open All Hours.** Granville goes to Scarborough hoping to catch up with Mavis, and leaves Leroy in charge of the shop – which soon has an unconscious customer on the floor. Last in the series.

8.00 **Call the Midwife.** Sister Julianne helps a woman from Pakistan who is unable to have children, but who has found to her shock that her husband is bringing a pregnant second wife into their home.

9.00 **McMafia.** Alex travels to Moscow on business, unaware of the danger he is rushing into. He has only one way to save himself as he faces a final showdown with Vadim. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action: Newcastle United v Manchester United, Southampton v Liverpool and Huddersfield Town v Bournemouth.

11.35 **The Women's Football Show.** A look at the biggest issues in the women's game, focusing on matters at both club and international level.

12.10 Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day three from PyeongChang, South Korea. **3.30** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Continued coverage of day three from PyeongChang, South Korea.

BBC2

6.00 Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day two from PyeongChang, South Korea. **9.15** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day two from PyeongChang, South Korea. **12.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **2.00** Food & Drink. (R) **2.30** Back in Time for Tea. (R) **3.30** The Crane Gang. (R) **4.30** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day two from PyeongChang, South Korea.

6.00 **New York: America's Busiest City.** Anita Rani, Ade Adepitan, Ant Anstead and Dan Snow look at food consumption in the Big Apple. From dusk until dawn at the New Fulton fish market in the Bronx, they uncover the hidden night time operations, hard-nosed negotiations and price fluctuations of this enormous wholesale operation. (R)

7.00 **Winter Olympics – Today at the Games.** Clare Balding presents highlights of the second day's action from the 23rd staging of the Games, which takes place in PyeongChang, South Korea.

8.00 **South Korea: Earth's Hidden Wilderness.** Documentary exploring the wildlife, traditions and landscape in the country's rural areas, including footage of dolphins swimming alongside humans and a falconer flying a goshawk.

9.00 **Dragons' Den.** The panel assess the profit-making potential of selling advertising space on the move, a scheme for improving children's handwriting, and a motorcycle chain-tensioning product.

10.00 **The Mash Report.** Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R)

10.30 **Live at the Apollo.** Nish Kumar presents stand-up comedy from the Hammersmith Apollo in west London, introducing sets by Luisa Omelian and David O'Doherty. (R)

11.15 **Cleverman.** Koen's power and understanding grows as he spends time with Uncle Jimmy, while Waru discovers a dangerous creature and is led to a substance he believes can vanquish the Cleverman.

12.10 Women's Six Nations Highlights. **12.40** Film: The Deep. (2012) **2.05** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **3.05** Holly City. (R) **4.05** Weather for the Week Ahead. **4.10** BBC News.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. **7.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled! The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled! Ben 10. (R) **8.10** Scrambled! Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled! Spy School. **8.35** Scrambled! Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** River Monsters. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **11.25** The Voice UK. (R) **12.55** ITV News: Weather. **1.00** Britain's Best Walks with Julia Bradbury. (R) **1.30** What Would Your Kid Do? (R) **2.30** The Cruise: Return to the Mediterranean. (R) **3.00** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **3.30** Tipping Point. (R) **4.30** Regional Programme: Weather. **4.40** ITV News: Weather. **5.00** The Celebrity Chase. (R)

6.00 **Dancing on Ice.** Love Week arrives at the rink, just in time for St Valentine's Day. Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean, Jason Gardiner and Ashley Banjo once more take their places on the judging panel, as Holly Willoughby and Philip Schofield welcome the eight remaining celebrities and their pro-skater partners back out onto the ice.

8.00 **Endeavour.** Oxford plays host to a veteran film star, in town to visit a local cinema. However, a mysterious death casts a sinister pall over the occasion, and offers the newly promoted DS Endeavour Morse a fresh case to pursue. Meanwhile, a family visit puts DCI Thursday's hospitality to the test. Inspector Morse prequel, starring Shaun Evans and Roger Allam.

10.00 ITV News: Weather.

10.10 **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston and Allegra Stratton, featuring reports on the latest issues and interviews with topical guests. (R)

11.05 **Six Nations Highlights.** Action from the second round of the championship, featuring Ireland v Italy at the Aviva Stadium, England v Wales at Twickenham and Scotland v France at Murrayfield.

12.00 Next of Kin. (R) **1.35** Jackpot247. **3.00** Take on the Twisters. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.35** The Simpsons. (R) **2.05** The Simpsons. (R) **2.35** Film: School of Rock. (2003) Comedy, starring Jack Black. **4.45** Film: Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer. (2007) Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Ioan Gruffudd.

6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **Posh Pawn.** The return of the programme offering an insight into the world of high-end pawnbroking. James takes a ride around London in an eye-catching supercar, with an aspiring fitness guru who's looking for £80,000. With her eyes on a round-the-world cruise costing £30,000, an adventurous retiree wants to sell a collection of handbags and jewellery. A car enthusiast contacts memorabilia expert Lawrence about a helmet that once belonged to land speed record-breaker Donald Campbell, and James faces a dilemma when he gets an offer for one of his favourite impulse buys. (R)

8.00 **Lost Pyramids of the Maya.** Documentary following a research project that has uncovered the ruins of an ancient hidden civilisation in the jungles of Central America.

9.00 **Film: Spy.** (2015) Premiere. A deskbound CIA agent provides valuable background support for a dashing secret agent, but has never gone into action herself. Everything changes, when the spy mysteriously vanishes, and she leaps into action to take his place, infiltrating the inner circle of a ruthless arms dealer and trying to avert a global catastrophe. Comedy adventure, starring Melissa McCarthy.

11.25 **Film: Friends with Benefits.** (2011) A recruiter sleeps with one of her client's staff, but keeping their feelings out of the arrangement proves tricky. Romantic comedy, starring Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis.

1.25 The World's Most Expensive Food. (R) **2.20** The Supertur. (R) **3.15** Sarah Beeny's Four Rooms. (R) **4.10** Gillette World Sport. **4.35** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **5.05** Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Moty. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.35** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.45** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.10** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.30** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.45** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.55** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** Football on 5: The Championships. (R) **11.15** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Film: Over Her Dead Body. (2008) Supernatural romantic comedy, starring Eva Longoria. **2.30** Film: What to Expect When You're Expecting. (2012) Comedy drama, starring Cameron Diaz. **4.25** 5 News Weekend. **4.30** Film: Sleepless in Seattle. (1993) Romantic comedy, with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan. **5.30** 5 News Update. **5.35** Film: Sleepless in Seattle. (1993) Concluded.

6.30 **Film: Along Came Polly.** (2004) An obsessive man's orderly routine is thrown into disarray when a wildly spontaneous old friend walks back into his life. Romantic comedy, with Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston. Edited for language and sexual content.

8.00 **Rom-Com LOL Special.** Iain Lee narrates a collection of internet videos featuring weddings. (R)

9.00 **Britain's Funniest Rom-Com.** As St Valentine's Day approaches, a selection of film stars, comedians and TV personalities revisit some of cinema's most memorable romantic comedies, via a top 40 list interspersed with personal accounts of first loves. Celebrating the unique way this particular genre gets audiences laughing and crying in equal measure, and among the actors sharing their thoughts on the films are Sleepless in Seattle's Rita Wilson, and Gregory's Girl star Clare Grogan.

11.55 **Film: There's Something About Mary.** (1998) A lovesick man hires a seedy detective to track down his high-school sweetheart. Comedy, starring Cameron Diaz.

2.10 SuperCasino. **4.00** Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. (R) **5.10** Great Scientists. (R) **5.35** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Winter Olympics Extra **9.00** Horizon: Mars – A Traveller's Guide **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Film: Mia Madre (2015) **12.15** Sinus Musicals **1.15** Horizon: Mars – A Traveller's Guide **2.15** Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection **3.15** Close

ITV2

12.00 Take Me Out **1.20** The Voice UK **2.50** Film: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **3.50** FYI Daily **3.55** Film: Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore (2010) **4.35** Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013) **5.35** FYI Daily **5.40** Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013) **6.40** Film: Jurassic World (2015) **7.40** FYI Daily **7.45** Film: Jurassic World (2015) **9.00** Survival of the Fittest **10.30** Family Guy **12.00** American Dad! **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.50** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV3

12.15 Film: Columbo: The Greenhouse Jungle (1972) **1.50** Agatha Christie: Marple **3.50** The Durrells **6.00** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **11.00** Film: Changeling (2008) **1.45** Blue Murder **3.00** George and Mildred **3.55** Road to Avonlea **5.40** ITV3 Nightscreen **ITV4**

11.45 Live Snooker Shoot-Out. Coverage of the afternoon session in the fourth and final day's play at the Crucible. **5.45** Live Snooker Shoot-Out. Further coverage of the fourth day's play at the single-frame tournament. **10.00** Film: Executive Decision (1996) **11.00** FYI Daily **11.05** Film: Executive Decision (1996) **12.45** Minder **2.35** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.00 The Goldbergs **12.30** Film: Casper (1995) **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Film: Men in Black (1997) **8.00** Celebs Go Dating **10.00** Naked Attraction **11.05** The Big Bang Theory **12.00** Gogglebox **1.00** Celebs Go Dating **2.05** Naked Attraction **3.00** First Dates Abroad **3.25** Hollywoods

Film4

11.00 The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) **1.00** Young Sherlock Holmes (1985) **3.10** The Hound of the Baskervilles (1959) **4.50** Evolution (2001) **6.50** Last Holiday (2006) **9.00** 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi (2016) **11.50** Limitless (2011) **1.55** Enough Said (2013) **3.45** Close

StarReader

Travel

Hand picked holidays with you in mind

✈️🚗🚆🚢🏠

Chicago

Boasting six Tony Awards, two Olivier Awards and a Grammy, and now starring Academy Award-Winner Cuba Gooding Jr in his West End stage debut, Chicago is returning to London to celebrate 21 years of standing ovations in style!

This dazzling production has thrilled audiences around the world since 1996, telling the story of nightclub singer Roxie Hart, her rival Velma Kelly and the slick defence lawyer Billy Flynn. With impressive choreography and a show-stopping score featuring the iconic songs Razzle Dazzle, Cell Block Tango and All That Jazz, this production is sure to entertain.

London Theatre Break

2 Days by Coach - Matinee

Departing Saturday 7 Apr

from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

Price Includes...

✓ Return coach travel

✓ 1 night DBB at a selected hotel, Heathrow area

✓ Chicago theatre ticket – Grand Circle (matinee performance)

✓ Free time in London

2 Days by Coach

only £119

School of Rock

Dewey Finn, a failed wannabe rock star, decides to earn a little extra cash by posing as a substitute teacher at a prestigious prep school. Not being a star academic performer nor great at marking essays, Dewey instead decides to create his own curriculum, turning his class into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band.

Based on the Paramount film written by Mike White and starring Jack Black, this rocking stage musical is produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber who has added 14 new songs to the score, which also includes all the original songs from the film.

London Theatre Break

2 Days by Coach - Matinee

Departing Saturday 7 Apr

from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

Price Includes...

✓ Return coach travel

✓ 1 night DBB at a selected hotel, Heathrow area

✓ School of Rock theatre ticket - Stalls/Circle (matinee performance)

✓ Free time in London

2 Days by Coach

only £149

Also Available on this package and date

Kinky Boots

2 Days by Coach only £139

THE LION KING

2 Days by Coach only £149

THE LION KING

2 Days by Coach only £159

WICKED

2 Days by Coach only £139

Call or visit us online for even more top London shows and available dates

Omega Holidays cannot be held responsible for the non-appearance of a particular actor/actress; no refunds will be given in this event. Whilst we always try to ensure that parties are seated together, very occasionally, it may be necessary for parties to be split. Couples are always seated together. Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices shown are per person, based on two people sharing a db/twin room. Single supplements apply.

For more information or to book, please call:

03300 130 051

Quote OMRT

033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

or visit us online at

omegabreaks.com/RT

ABTA

Travel with confidence

ATAA REG. 94762

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
The Deadly Twin, Channel 5, 3.20pm
Premiere. A woman springs into action after discovering that the twin brother of her daughter's boyfriend has escaped from a psychiatric institution intent on revenge. Thriller, starring Brigid Brannagh, Timothy Granaderos and Calista Carradine. (2017)

TUESDAY
Fatal Fiance, Channel 5, 3.15pm
A woman joins forces with a reporter to clear the name of her fiance, who has become the prime suspect in a murder case. However, not everything is as it seems. Thriller, starring Jenny Wade, Jordi Vilasuso and Taylor Cole. (2016)

WEDNESDAY
Water for Elephants, Channel 4, 1.25am
A veterinary student is left homeless and penniless after his parents' deaths during the Depression. He joins a travelling circus, applying his skills to caring for the animals, and falls in love with the possessive owner's wife as they tend an elephant together. Romantic drama based on Sara Gruen's novel, with Reese Witherspoon and Robert Pattinson. (2011)



Water for Elephants, Wednesday, Channel 4, 1.25am

THURSDAY
A Husband's Confession, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Preacher Evan Tanning's peaceful life as a radio parenting advisor is shattered when the son he never knew he had turns up on his doorstep, jeopardising his credibility ahead of the nationwide launch of his show. However, events take an even more catastrophic turn when Tanning's wayward teenage niece Jamie goes missing. Drama, starring JR Bourne and Allie Gonino. (2015)

FRIDAY
Magic Mike, Channel 4, 12.10am
A male stripper who is the star attraction in a nightclub teaches a talented young dancer the tricks of the trade, while also introducing him to his hedonistic world. The veteran performer falls for his protegee's sister, but finds his wild lifestyle comes between them. Steven Soderbergh's comedy drama, with Channing Tatum and Olivia Munn. (2012)

Perez has a new case to crack on an old murder

We know what you're thinking – not ANOTHER crime drama.

After all, TV isn't exactly short of them, whether they're home grown or being imported from the US or, as is more likely these days, Europe.

There's no wonder that the recent National Television Awards introduced a category dedicated to them – there are just so many being made these days.

Two of them have been inspired by the books of Ann Cleeves. Vera recently ended its more recent run on ITV, and now Shetland is back for its fourth series, two years on from its predecessor.

Although born and raised in England, Cleeves knows the place well, having lived there; she's currently living in Whitley Bay, close to where her Vera books are set.

Some fans have complained that the TV plots don't follow the exact pattern of her novels, but she's relaxed about that.

"The TV adaptations are very often very different - the scriptwriters

cut some characters and add others, cut big chunks of plot and sometimes they even change the murderer!," she laughs.

"But prose and film are different forms. Besides, the book stops being mine every time someone reads it. Each reader brings their own imagination, history and prejudice to the story and each writer has to learn to let go. Adaptation just takes the process a bit further."

One of the secrets of Shetland's success is its far north setting – the isles themselves are almost a character in their own right.

"I think the viewers are naturally drawn to the place, the setting and curious about what Shetland is like," explains Douglas Henshall, who plays the lead character, DI Jimmy Perez. "And, beyond the location, it's a well written drama which draws you in."

This time around, fans of the books don't need to worry about a favourite story being torn apart by a screenwriter, because this time, it's

a completely original tale that runs throughout the six-part series.

"David Kane has created a compelling and distinctive crime story told across six hours. We are also thrilled to have the brilliant core cast return," says executive producer Kate Bartlett.

Her colleague Gaynor Holmes adds: "Shetland has a loyal following and we're sure they will be thrilled with the surprises we've got for them this time around."

The plot focuses on local man Thomas Malone, who has spent the past 23 years behind bars after being found guilty of murdering teenager Lizzie Kilmuir. Malone has always protested his innocence, and when his conviction is eventually overturned, it's up to Perez and the team to find out what really happened to Lizzie.

Perez speaks to the original investigating officer, Drew McColl. Now retired, he has plenty to say about the case, and explains why, despite DNA evidence to the contrary, he still believes Malone is guilty.



Douglas Henshall stars in Shetland, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Trauma, Channel 4, 9pm
New series. After a bad day at work, Dan Bowker arrives home drunk to discover that his 15-year-old son Alex has not come home and no-one knows where he is. Meanwhile, off-duty trauma surgeon Jon Allerton is at home celebrating his birthday when he is called into work to operate on Alex, who has been stabbed. When the medical team is unable to save Alex, Dan cannot let go of the idea that the surgeon is responsible for the death of his son. Thriller, starring Adrian Lester and John Simm, with Rowena King and Lyndsey Marshal

Julius Caesar Revealed, BBC1, 9pm
The classicist sets out on a quest to uncover the real Julius Caesar, challenging the received popular view of the Roman emperor. She looks at how he become the autocratic ruler of Rome, the tactics of his military campaigns, his use of spin and PR on his way to the top, and the reasons behind his assassination on the Ides of March in 44 BC. The scholar also examines his surprising legacy right up to the present day, revealing how his influence is still shaping language, politics and people's everyday lives.

TUESDAY
Flatpack Empire, Channel 4, 9pm
Cameras continue to roam the boardrooms and warehouses of one of Sweden's most successful exports since Abba. This week, one of IKEA's newest designers, Hanna-Kaarina Heikkila, wants to challenge mass production by creating an 'imperfect vase' that has the finger-marks of its creator. There's also a visit to the home of the Billy Bookcase to see what it takes to be a supplier for IKEA.

WEDNESDAY
Earth's Natural Wonders, BBC1, 9pm
New series. Cameras explore some of the most breathtaking places on earth, following the lives of some of the people who call these extraordinary places home. In the first episode, cameras follow Yak-herder Thokmay Lowa as he leads his herd through one of the most treacherous mountain passes in the high Himalaya. Elsewhere, the programme follows members of Inuit communities in the Canadian Arctic as they take part in the hazardous mussel

harvest, and people in Siberia searching for mammoth tusks, now released from the Siberian Permafrost after thousands of years.

Damned, Channel 4, 10pm
Channel 4 recently caused a stir with the acclaimed drama Kiri, especially over its portrayal of a social worker, played by Sarah Lancashire, who found herself in the firing line when a child in her care went missing. But that hasn't stopped the channel returning to the subject as Jo Brand's comedy about social workers is back for a second series. The run certainly feels topical as the team at Elm Heath find themselves dealing with a case of historic abuse. So, it's not a great time for Denise (Georgie Glenn) to bring Mimi (Lolly Adefope) into the fold, especially as newly single Al (Alan Davies) and a permanently stressed Rose (Brand) are too busy to mentor her.

THURSDAY
Children Who Kill, Channel 4, 9pm
Juveniles found guilty of murder in the US are given life, with no chance of parole – a headline approach that in 2015 prompted the American Supreme Court to rule such sentences as 'unconstitutional'. With the system now under review, Susanna Reid travels to the US and talks to young killers about their crimes and life in jail. Susanna also meets the families of victims, to ask how they feel about a possible change to America's approach to juvenile sentencing.

FRIDAY
Requiem, BBC1, 9pm
Aron Morgan lodges a complaint against Matilda for harassing Davey, and the police are unmoved by Matilda showing them what she believes is a clue to Carys' disappearance. Rose is pushed to breaking point as old wounds are reopened, Ed gets jittery as Trudy gives him the cold shoulder, and Graves becomes increasingly suspicious that he's hiding something. Sylvia reveals the peculiar ancestry of the Dean family. Hal identifies the source of the eerie music on the audiotapes, and Trudy remembers a crucial detail about the day Carys vanished. Psychological thriller, starring Lydia Wilson.



Trauma, Monday, BBC1, 9pm



For Sale

Freehold Industrial/Office Premises

08449 02 03 04
gva.co.uk/13845

On behalf of the Joint Liquidators
Belfont Trading Estate, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen B62 8DR

- GIA of circa 22,795 sq ft (2,117 sq m)
- Secure self-contained site
- 2 miles from J3 of the M5
- Established industrial/commercial location
- Offers in excess of £625,000 invited for the freehold interest

Please contact:
Ben Holyhead on 0121 609 8807
ben.holyhead@gva.co.uk

JOIN US

WEDDING FAIR

SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2018, 11AM - 3PM, THE MOUNT HOTEL, TETTENHALL WOOD, WOLVERHAMPTON, WV6 8HL.

EVENT ORGANISERS CONTACTS

Deana Jones - 01902 319693 | 07984 115267 | deana.jones@expressandstar.co.uk
Leah Edmunds - 01902 319619 | 07807 401172 | leah.edmunds@expressandstar.co.uk

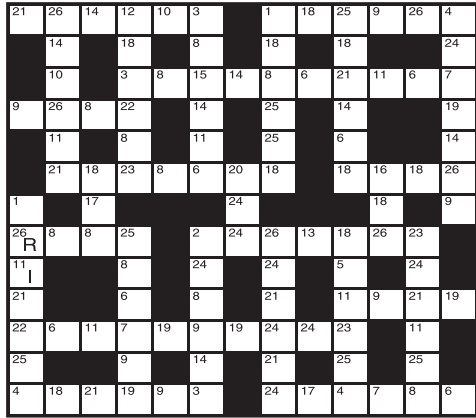
WOLVERHAMPTON MAGAZINE
THE MAGAZINE FOR THE CITY AND BEYOND

BRAIN GYM

No.466

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	K	T	F	J	P	Y	B	A	Z	L	E	U	V
14	X	S	M	W	C	D	H	Q	G	I	N	O	R

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26
	R

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

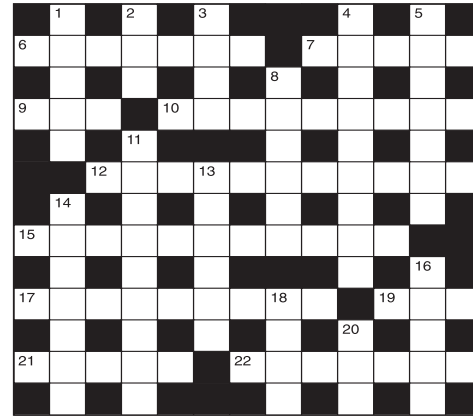
Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. Keeps earth-bound for certain reason (7)
7. Topless figure with a tan? (5)
- 9 & 19Ac. Vegetable to decay at the back of the vehicle (6)
10. Decree one should be encircled by heavy artillery (9)
15. Where a man keeps his capital and his secrets! (5,3,3)
17. Could it show the force of a testament? (9)
19. See 9 Across.
21. What directors do for the farm animal (5)
22. Uneasiness if sea-mail goes astray (7)

Down

- 1 & 16Dn. Retarding mechanism faulty, we hear - manage to escape (5,5)
2. See 20 Down
3. German flower produces a certain fragrance, one hears! (4)
4. I'm having a preference for being unbiased (9)
5. See 13 Down.
8. America is after the record for this event (6)
11. Hospital attendants in whom discipline reposes (9)
- 13 & 5Dn. Pedagogue chose the carol, maybe (6,7)
14. Yet an alteration about a football team causes concern (7)
16. See 1 Down
18. Angela Nolan could show impetuosity (4)
- 20 & 2Dn. Display to put down in the open air (6)



Quick Clues:

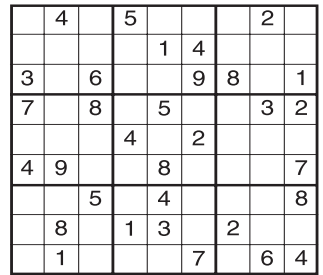
Across

6. Pagan (7)
7. Faithful (5)
9. Grow older (3)
10. Indiscreet (9)
12. Of inferior quality (6-5)
15. Foot soldiers (11)
17. Unceasing (9)
19. Snoop (3)
21. Sharp (5)
22. Amaze (7)

Down

1. Simulate (5)
2. Pig pen (3)
3. Judge (4)
4. Venetian boatman (9)
5. Serious (7)
8. Weekday (6)
11. Lay waste (9)
13. Trip (6)
14. Bill (7)
16. Salt water (5)
18. Too (4)
20. Decay (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

2	1	6	4	3	8	5	9	7
4	9	8	5	6	7	3	2	1
3	7	5	1	2	9	6	8	4
5	8	2	3	9	4	1	7	6
7	4	9	8	1	6	2	5	3
6	3	1	2	7	5	8	4	9
1	2	7	9	5	3	4	6	8
8	6	3	7	4	2	9	1	5
9	5	4	6	8	1	7	3	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Bare necessity; 8 Idolatry; 9 Emma; 10 Tender; 12 Letter; 14 Writer; 16 Strips; 18 Idle; 20 Transact; 22 Carried the day. Down: 1 Landseer; 2 Sealed; 3 Beat; 4 Recycles; 5 Ascend; 6 Stem; 11 Rarities; 13 Especial; 15 Theory; 17 Rasped; 19 Dead; 21 Acts.
QUICK - Across: 7 Reprehensible; 8 Composer; 9 Gone; 10 Frolic; 12 Preach; 14 Adjoin; 16 Decent; 18 Epic; 20 Inwardly; 22 Comprehensive. Down: 1 Devoured; 2 Propel; 3 Thus; 4 Intrepid; 5 Single; 6 Flan; 11 Consider; 13 Conclude; 15 Occupy; 17 Caress; 19 Poor; 21 Weep.

Quiz

1. What was the first Viscount Montgomery of Alamein's first name?
2. Which post did David Owen hold in the Labour Government from 1977-1979? The best-known form of which game is called 8-ball?
3. Which actor played Lord Bellamy in Upstairs, Downstairs?
4. Which condition was also called the king's evil?
5. Which comic actor's first talking film was Monsieur Verdoux?
6. What, in 1959, became the City of London's first new theatre in 200 years?
7. What is the name of the 2-day holiday at the start of the Jewish New Year?
8. Who was Queen Elizabeth II's father?
9. Which partnership wrote My Fair Lady and Paint Your Wagon?

Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Ostrogoths; 2 Letchworth; 3 Seraphim; 4 TS Eliot; 5 Campbells; 6 Westminster Abbey; 7 Fungus; 8 Napalm; 9 Oxford; 10 Loganberry.

Niner: POULTICED

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

8628945
37651
87631

gives a game,
gives a second game,
gives a third game.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

STOVES **bellini** **NEW WORLD** **SIEMENS BEKO BOSCH Lec**

Capital

APPLIANCE CENTRE

SALE SPECIAL!

INDESIT GAS DOUBLE OVEN NOW £359

HOTPOINT DOUBLE OVEN RED ALL GAS £399

HOTPOINT 13 PLACE DISHWASHER GRAPHITE £299

HOTPOINT GAS OVEN AND GRILL £299

INDESIT 60CM TALL FRIDGE FREEZER £259

HOTPOINT FROST FREE 2MTR TALL £299

LOTS OF STOCK SAME DAY DELIVERY

Macrome Road, Claregate, Market Square, W-ton. Kingswinford Centre 01902 752764

EURONICS

LOOKING FOR SUPER SERVICE...

With Price Match Guarantee?

YOUR LOCAL ELECTRICAL SUPERHERO IS HERE TO HELP!

COME IN-STORE TODAY FOR A **Super Price Match** ON SELECTED APPLIANCES

Capital Appliance Centre Ltd
Head Office: Macrome Road, Claregate, Wolverhampton, WV6 9HD Tel: 01902 752764
Shop Street, 1 Market Place, Wolverhampton WV5 6RX 01902 423060
Telford: Castle Street, Hadley, Telford TF1 6GJ Tel: 01952 257007
www.capitalappliances.co.uk /CapitalApplianceCentre

*T&Cs apply. The Euronics Price Match policy is valid on selected Agency models. Ask In-store for full T&Cs. Sold as an agent for Euronics Limited. All rights reserved. All offers are subject to availability while stocks last. Delivery & Installation charges may apply. Exclusions and Radius Apply. Selected Stores Only. Prices correct at time of print but can be subject to change. See in store for full details. Images for illustration purposes only. Copyright Euronics 2016. July E&EO 2016.

Pub's cooking up a real storm

With the recent conditions making driving a risk-taking exercise of the highest degree, you want to find some good grub at the end of your quest to make that risk worthwhile.

Outside left you feeling like Jack Frost himself was running his prickly tongue all over your face, so having something hot and good-tasting in your belly was a terrific tonic.

It was a bonus, then, that the venue itself and staff working within the fairly recently opened Cookhouse & Pub offered the same warmth and friendliness as the food.

We had actually tried to go the night before. But, of course, it's a busy time of year and everyone would be out with friends or co-workers. . . and we hadn't booked. On top of this, they had lost the heaters in one half of the restaurant so were running on a smaller capacity. The staff were very apologetic saying sorry for the wait for tables and trying to fit in an alternative for another night if we didn't have time to wait.

BOOTHS

We took up the offer of a table the next evening and, based on our brief dealings with the staff so far, signs were good that this place had potential. So, 24 hours later it was take two. The restaurant was back up to full capacity and judging by the warmth swirling around the venue they had their heating back on in all corners.

Again we had service with a smile, one of the sizeable booths at the back of the venue giving a bit of privacy to our meal and we were seated near the kitchen to be enticed by the smells floating out from within.

Of note here is the attention given to those who choose to dine alone. Situated next to a Premier Inn on the A4123 Wolverhampton Road in Oldbury – one of the main routes between the M5 and Wolverhampton city

Garlic and chilli prawns, and Moroccan lamb



Modern art – inside the decor is stylish



centre – they must undoubtedly get a lot of business trippers with laptop in tow looking to get a bit of prep done over a good bit of food.

To cater for that, they have comfortable looking 'solo seats' with a large enough table to accommodate plate and 'puter with plugs and adjustable lamps to boot. We hadn't seen this idea before, except perhaps for in London, so the idea was rather novel to us.

First thing was to treat the tastebuds with a starter. We were able to make our selections pretty quickly – one of us pregnant and with a constant hankering for

meat, while the other just overweight and with a greedy yearning for everything fattening.

I had the Moroccan-style lamb koftas, which sat on a plush bed of hummus and mint with fresh pomegranate seeds topped with Middle Eastern spices. The other half had the honey and mustard pork chipolatas with chopped parsley.

We had both picked our mains off the specials board. I had the special mixed grill, which differed from the regular option with the inclusion of tender, delicious ribs that peeled off the bone with ease.

As for the other half, she had the special lamb ragu which was sweetened nicely and came with a healthy side portion of garlic ciabatta.

This time I opted for the salted caramel, brownie and popcorn sundae but my girlfriend decided liquid was the way forward and had a C&P hot chocolate made with C&P mini chocolate beans, a giant marshmallow and whipped cream on top.

Too soon it was bedtime. And a mental note was added to come back soon with family and friends.

LEIGH SANDERS

The Ticket

To advertise your Pub,
Restaurant or Venue here

please call Sarah Childs on
01384 353258



Star Reader Travel
Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Your Chronicle
in association with
Omega.



**The Grand National
& Liverpool**

Departing Saturday 14 Apr

from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

Price Includes...

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 1 night DBB at a selected hotel, North West area
- ✓ Steeplechase Enclosure ticket at Aintree on Grand National Day
- ✓ En-route visit to Liverpool

**2 Days
by Coach** only **£150**



**Celebrate VE Day
with Vera Lynn Tribute**

Departing Friday 4 May

from Dudley & Halesowen

Price Includes...

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 2 nights DBB at the Warner Corton Coastal Village, Lowestoft
- ✓ Friday evening musical entertainment by The Mersey Legends
- ✓ Vera Lynn tribute show on Saturday evening
- ✓ Excursion to Norwich

**3 Days
by Coach** only **£180**

Coach package holidays are subject to Omega Holidays terms and conditions and are protected by a bond held with ABTA (NoV4782). Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices shown are per person, based on two people sharing a dbi/twin room. Single supplements apply.

For more information
or to book, please call: **03300 130 051**
or visit online at: **omegabreaks.com/RT**

Quote **OMRT**
033 numbers are free within inclusive
minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.



Commercial feature

Expertise

T Wall has also taken on a very experienced sales person to deal with motor home sales.



T Wall offers the full range of new cars from Ford and Vauxhall

"It is early days but we have already had some good enquiries and we think this will

But its services by no means end with just selling cars. Its expert technicians use the very latest diagnostic equipment and are trained to service all makes of cars and vans



The site at Pensnett, Kingswinford has been expanded

The company is also highly experienced in running Motability, the scheme which allows those with disabilities access to worry-free motoring – with those who qualify.

The company also stocks quality parts and accessories, and carries out MoT testing.

[illegible]

Motability Premier Dealer



VAUXHALL

Celebrating 100,000 Insignia orders

Fresh from its success at the Company Car Today CCT100 awards, where it was voted Best Upper Medium car and number two overall in the CCT100 models to meet every fleet need, the Insignia is available in Grand Sport and Sports Tourer body styles. Vauxhall's flagship range also includes a rugged Country Tourer and a forthcoming GSi performance model that will arrive in Vauxhall showrooms in the spring.

The new Insignia range is powered by a portfolio of turbocharged, four-cylinder, diesel and petrol engines from 1.5 to 2.0-litre, combined with a choice of six-speed manual or six and eight-speed automatic transmissions.

The most powerful diesel and petrol engines are also offered with innovative torque vectoring all-wheel drive.

Buyers not only benefit from numerous state-of-the-art technologies such as adaptive cruise control (which automatically adjusts the speed to follow the vehicle in front according to the selected following distance), IntelliLux LED matrix headlights (which automatically adapt to every traffic situation) and ergonomic seats certified by the back-specialists from AGR. The new Insignia also offers moderate cost of ownership compared with its competitors in the high-volume and premium segments.

Nine in ten of the new Insignia cars ordered so far come with the optional Navi 900 IntelliLink top-of-the-range infotainment system. The integrated navigation system features an eight-inch capacitive colour touchscreen. Navi 900 IntelliLink is compatible with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, bringing the world of smartphones into



The Insignia Grand Sport



Bringing smartphones into the car

the car. If OnStar is on board, smartphones can also connect to the car's powerful 4G/LTE Wi-Fi Hotspot[1] – which enables online audio streaming.

The popularity of the new Insignia in the marketplace is matched by its success in the international media. The new flagship has won prestigious awards such as Carbuyer's Best Large Family 2018, Best Family Car at the 2017 Scottish Car of the Year Awards and

Top Crossover Estate at the 4x4 Magazine Awards. Others top honours include the "Golden Steering Wheel" 2017 in Poland (Auto Świat) and Slovenia (Auto Bild) as well as "Best Car 2017" (Fleet Cars & Vans, Fleet Auto Premium) in Poland and "Fleet News of the Year" (FLEET Magazine) in the Czech Republic.

The new Insignia has also proved its mettle against tough competition in comparison

tests carried out by automotive magazines across Europe. To date, the Insignia has won 23 of 40 comparison tests: four wins in Germany (Autostraßenverkehr July 26 and September 20, Auto Zeitung July 26, Auto Bild August 4); three wins in the Netherlands (AutoWeek 29/17 and online July 21, AutoVisie July 6) and the Czech Republic (auto.cz September 29, AutoTIP October 2, auto motor und sport October 17); two in Portugal (Auto

Hoje August 24, Auto Foco December 21), Belgium (Le Moniteur Automobile November 27, AutoWereld December 1), Poland (Auto Świat July 10 and July 17), Sweden (Teknikens Värld August 27, Vi Bilägare January 2018), and the United Kingdom (What Car? August 4, Auto Express January 17, 2018); and one each in France (caradisiac.com), Slovakia (auto motor und sport October 10) and Norway (Motor November 4).



The Insignia is available in Grand Sport and Sports Tourer body styles plus a Country Tourer and GSi performance model

LOW DEPOSITS – LOW PAYMENTS AT T WALL VAUXHALL

Order your
NU 18 REG
NOW

ONLY £239 PER MONTH

VAUXHALL MOKKA X

1.4T ECOTEC ACTIVE 5DR

Representative Finance Example	
On the Road Price	£20,150.00
47 Monthly Payments of	£239.92
Customer Deposit	£999.00
Finance Deposit Allowance	£3,000.00
Amount of Credit	£16,151.00
Interest	£1,908.24
Cost of Credit	£1,908.24

Duration of Agreement 48 months	
Optional Final Payment	£6,783.00
Total Amount Payable	£22,058.24
Annual Mileage	6,000 p.a.

4.2% APR REPRESENTATIVE

Order your
NU 18 REG
NOW

ONLY £249 PER MONTH

VAUXHALL GRANDLAND X

1.2 SE 5DR

Representative Finance Example	
On the Road Price	£20,788.00
47 Monthly Payments of	£249.98
Customer Deposit CASH OR P/X	£999.00
Finance Deposit Allowance	£1,200.00
Amount of Credit	£18,589.00
Interest	£2,303.06
Cost of Credit	£2,303.06

Duration of Agreement 48 months	
Optional Final Payment	£9,143.00
Total Amount Payable	£23,091.06
Annual Mileage	6,000 p.a.

4.2% APR REPRESENTATIVE

Order your
NU 18 REG
NOW

ONLY £239 PER MONTH

VAUXHALL INSIGNIA

GRAND SPORT 1.5T (165) DESIGN 5DR

Representative Finance Example	
On the Road Price	£17,235.00
47 Monthly Payments of	£239.55
Customer Deposit CASH OR P/X	£999.00
Amount of Credit	£16,236.00
Interest	£1,924.85
Cost of Credit	£1,924.85

Duration of Agreement 48 months	
Optional Final Payment	£6,902.00
Total Amount Payable	£19,159.85
Annual Mileage	6,000 p.a.

4.2% APR REPRESENTATIVE

T Wall Garages

01384 288333

www.twall.co.uk

High Street, Pensnett
Kingswinford
DY6 8XB

Award winning family-run business – established 1953

1 Mile from Russells Hall, Hospital, towards Kingswinford

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 12.7 (22.3) – 74.3 (3.8), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) – 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) – 85.6 (3.3). CO2 emissions: 373 – 88g/km.#
#Fuel consumption information is official government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU-regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

Simply super Suzuki Swift a top dog

By Sharon Walters

What a delight, a car that is a world player but with a model specifically designed for British and European roads.

Any my how you can appreciate that when driving about in Suzuki's simply super Swift. In order to suit the needs of European customers, Suzuki knew that simply designing and developing the new Swift in Japan would not be sufficient. So it turned to the roads of Europe, where teams of local evaluation drivers helped to hone the new car.

Testing of the chassis, which is the centrepiece of the Swift's evolution, started in January 2016 in the United Kingdom and Germany. Covering a total of more than 6,000 miles, the teams tested as many as 90 different suspension prototypes in an effort to meet the need for optimum steering feel together with providing supple and agile suspension for British roads.

The latest model arrived on our shores last June 12 years after it first docked. An initial drive back then along winding roads in the Peak District impressed but how would it cope with my country commute to and from the office and lengthy trips on the motorway?

Simply super! Sorry to sound so twee, but it was.

This supermini made a big impact during its earlier incarnations and the latest seems to be doing even better. There is more room for people and their luggage and it is faster off the mark. At the same time it is a little more refined and more powerful while also being more economic. It is dynamic and comfortable as well, what more could you ask for?

In a little more detail looks-wise it has a more



There's a good quality interior finish impressive grille, LED daytime running lights and stronger haunches which give it more prominence on the road.

The Swift's extra space comes courtesy of a longer wheelbase which permitted the engineers to give more space in the cabin, especially for those in the back, and a bigger boot of 265 litres – a very good space for a car of this size which can easily cope with luggage for a holiday.

It's a dynamic drive with its lower and wider stance and feels very secure when tackling tight corners. It is also comfortable and enjoyed that motorway cruise much more than I expected a car of the Swift's size to do, as did I the driver.

Swift is available as a five-door model in SZ3, SZ-T and SZ5 grades. Standard equipment for all models in the range is comprehensive and the SZ3 model with 1.2-litre Dualjet engine and manual transmission will include six airbags, air conditioning, leather steering wheel, DAB radio with Bluetooth and four speakers, rear



The Suzuki Swift starts at just under £12,000 and goes up to £16,849

privacy glass, LED daytime running lights, 15-inch wheels, body coloured door mirrors and front electric windows.

A 90hp 1.2-litre four cylinder Dualjet engine offers CO2 emissions of 98g/km and 65.7mpg for the manual transmission model.

And the 111PS 1.0-litre three cylinder Boosterjet turbo engine offers CO2 emissions of 104g/km and 61.4mpg for manual transmission model. This Boosterjet engine might appear small but it is remarkable with that power and torque more usually found in a diesel engine than a small petrol and fuel

economy. Going through the gears is quick and easy and in top gear is very refined giving quite remarkable fuel use on that motorway marathon I undertook.

The Boosterjet is also available with Suzuki's SHVS mild hybrid system offering CO2 emissions of 97g/km and Suzuki's excellent ALLGRIP 'AUTO' 4WD system. four-wheel drive system is a well proven and simple fully automatic and permanent four-wheel drive layout which transfers additional torque to the rear wheels when needed.

Inside, for a car so modestly priced, there is

a decent finish and quality of trim (it's certainly not too plastic) and interior features include a centre console turned five degrees towards the driver, front seats with optimised shape and spring position with heightened side bolsters.

The fascia is neat and tidy with sporty white accents and satin chrome with a basic black theme. The instrument cluster offers either colour or monochrome LCD in the centre with a coolant temperature and fuel gauge incorporated within the two main gauges. And all controls are easy to reach and operate.



THE SUZUKI RANGE

0% APR & NO DEPOSIT*



ENJOY THE RIDE

Contact Clarks of Kidderminster or Halesowen Motor House today to book a test drive and to find out more about this great offer.

Clarks of Kidderminster or Halesowen Motor House is a trading style of Worcester Carsales Ltd and is a credit broker and not a lender.

Request a test drive today; See below for your local dealership

Clarks of Kidderminster

Worcester Road, Kidderminster, DY10 1JR, 01562 862822
cars.suzuki.co.uk/dealers/clarks-of-kidderminster

Halesowen Motor House

Dudley Road, Halesowen, West Midlands, B63 3NH, 0121 503 0001
cars.suzuki.co.uk/dealers/halesowen-motor-house

Models shown: Ignis 1.2 Adventure petrol manual including metallic paint (£465) available at £14,464 on the road. Swift 1.0 Boosterjet HYBRID SZ5 petrol manual including optional accessory pack (£479) and metallic paint (£485) available at £16,463 on the road. Vitara 1.6 Kuro petrol manual including metallic paint (£500) available at £19,249 on the road. Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km): Ignis range: Urban from 51.3 (5.5) to 57.6 (4.9), Extra Urban from 64.2 (4.4) to 70.6 (4.0), Combined from 60.1 (4.7) to 65.7 (4.3). Official CO₂ emissions from 106g/km to 97g/km. Swift range: Urban from 44.1 (6.4) to 58.8 (4.8), Extra Urban from 65.7 (4.3) to 76.3 (3.7), Combined from 56.5 (5.0) to 65.7 (4.3). Official CO₂ emissions from 114g/km to 97g/km. Vitara range: Urban from 42.1 (6.7) to 61.4 (4.6), extra urban from 55.4 (5.1) to 76.3 (3.7), combined from 49.5 (5.7) to 70.6 (4.0). Official CO₂ emissions from 131g/km to 106g/km. from 114g/km to 97g/km. Fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Excludes Suzuki Jimny. Hire Purchase product available on 0% APR over 12-42 months. Personal Contract Purchase product available on 0% APR over 25-43 months. Offer is available from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated. Credit is available to UK residents aged 18 years or over, subject to status, from Suzuki Finance, a trading style of Suzuki Financial Services Ltd, St. William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff CF10 5BH. This offer is subject to availability and Suzuki Financial Services Ltd reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer without notice or prior warning. Terms and Conditions apply. Suzuki Financial Services Ltd, part of Lloyds Banking Group. Offer correct at the time of going to print.

Excessive Bentayga can be practical

By Ian Donaldson

Here's a car that combines pointless excess and surprising practicality better than almost anything else on the road.

But you can do something about the excess before you buy and the practicality is still there for the taking for the length of your ownership.

First, the excess. After choosing the diesel engined version of Bentley's ship-sized and high selling Bentayga SUV you'll be faced with an options' list as long as a well tailored arm.

One of the boxes you can tick adds £2,995 to the bottom line for a dash mounted Breitling clock with dark mother of pearl face and – not joking here – ringed with eight small diamonds. So it's both naff and impossible to read at the same time.

So, with nearly three grand back in your pocket, we proceed to the practicality part of the Bentayga equation.

Choose diesel as fuel and you save £26,900 over the cost of the full fat 12-cylinder petrol model, losing only modestly in the performance stakes. You may find that 168mph and zero to 62mph in 4.8 seconds is sufficient after all.

It certainly feels plenty fast enough, if not as bonkers quick as the petrol W12. Quite near the just announced V8 petrol Bentayga, though, and a miniscule £400 cheaper.

Your respect for the performance will then turn to astonishment when you glance the fuel consumption readout – over 500 miles the Bentayga diesel on test managed 31.6mpg, and touched 40mpg-plus on a gentle motorway run.

For such a huge and heavy car that's close to miraculous and made the 17.6mpg from the



If you opt for a Breitling clock, add on £2,995 to the cost



Despite its size, there's not much legroom in the rear

W12 driven some months earlier seem utterly dipso. It means an easy 500 miles per 18 gallon tankful and much less messing about at the pumps for the Bentley's time pressed owner. And more time to enjoy driving a car that does a fine job of defying physics by making its 2.5 tonnes feel like a lighter vehicle when corners arrive – although never like a smaller one.

This is a very big machine, casting shadows over almost anything else in the car park and wide enough to make city driving an exercise in width judgement as the grocery deliveries van hurls towards you at must-make-the-slot speed.

In its element (wide, open road) the Bentayga is a near perfect way to transport four lucky people as far as they'd like to go,

cocooned in leather lined luxury in a cockpit that makes you feel special every time the doors pull themselves closed the last few millimetres, thus saving you the bother of slamming them shut.

Despite its gargantuan bulk the Bentayga is merely very adequately spacious in the rear – not leg-stretchingly roomy – and the boot, while regularly shaped is modestly sized

against something like ... a Skoda Superb. Bentley ownership is higher on the feel good factor and the Bentayga does not disappoint, especially with a list of optional extras that extends from TV screens in the rear (£965) to ventilated front seats with massage function (£2,805).

And that clock, if you must. Price: £135,800



This is a very big machine, casting shadows over everything else in the car park

THE NEW
GRANDLAND X
JUST A LITTLE MORE...GRAND

Available with **UP TO 5 YEARS** | **0% APR** | **FLEXIBLE FINANCE**

VAUXHALL

Dudley Motor Company
Dudley 01384 454100

T Wall Garages
Kingswinford 01384 288333

Stourbridge Motor House
Stourbridge 01384 447970

Halesowen Motor House
Halesowen 0121 503 0001

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Grandland X Sport Nav 1.2i (130PS) Turbo Start/Stop: Urban: 47.1 (6.0), Extra Urban: 62.8 (4.5), Combined 43.5 (6.5). CO₂ emissions: 149g/km.²

All of the following retailers are acting as a credit broker and not a lender. Worcester Carsales Limited trading as Dudley Motor Company, Worcester Carsales Limited trading as T Wall Garages, Worcester Carsales Limited trading as Stourbridge Motor House, Worcester Carsales Limited trading as Halesowen Motor House. We will introduce you to a limited number of lenders. Commission may be received.

Model shown Grandland X Sport Nav 1.2i (130PS). Offer subject to availability, on selected models at participating Retailers only. Conditional Sale. Finance subject to status. Ts&Cs apply. Applicants must be 18+. Finance by Vauxhall Finance, CF15 7YT. 24-60 month term. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 vehicles (purchase only excluding B2B supported vehicles). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations between 19 December 2017 and 02 April 2018. #Fuel consumption information is official government environmental data, tested in accordance with the relevant EU directive. Official EU regulated test data is provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. Vauxhall Motors Limited reserves the right to change, amend or withdraw this offer at any point in time. Correct at time of going to press.

Local Specialists

Aerials

MATT WALTERS DIGITAL AERIALS

your LOCAL Aerial/Satellite specialist
Aerials - Satellite Dishes Fitted From £65
ANY LIKE FOR LIKE

QUOTATION BEATEN

Senior Citizen Discounts
2 Year Guarantee
Digital Aerials/Freeview/Freesat
SKY HD/ SKY+/MULTIROOM
SKY Q specialist

- Free Quotation • Repairs • Free Call Out
- Same Day service • Freeview Specialist

£10 OFF ON PRODUCTION OF THIS ADVERT

Mobile: 07853 253176

Driveways

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac
Drives • Red Tarmac
Car Parks • Resurfacing

5 Year Guarantee
On All Work

Free Quotations and Advice

Checkatrade

Where reputation matters



Tel: 01384 79900 • 07583 170190
www.discountdriveways.co.uk



Electricians

BRADLEY ELECTRICAL & MAINTENANCE

Est 1987

All electrical work undertaken
Fully qualified & insured
Installation Condition Reports

No job too small

★ FREE ESTIMATES ★

Electrical Safety
Register

ELKSA + BS7671

Call Paul 01384 344589 or
07812 435833
www.bradleyelectrical.net

Fencing

Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken

• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling

• Turfing • Garden Clearance

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Manufacturers of all Concrete Products

eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards

All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken

Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)

Call Steve on

01384 242891 or 07970 300586

Garage Doors

GARADOR • CARDAL • SELECT • WESSEX • HENDERSON • HORMANN
SECTIONALS - UP & OVERS - SIDE-HINGED - ROLLERS - MOTORISED



RELIADOR GARAGE DOORS

SALES - INSTALLATION - REPAIRS



01384 386909

07858 299305

www.reliador.co.uk - reliadorgd@gmail.com

CALL US NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE

Gardening

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation

WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK

01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years

Gardening & Landscaping Services

Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting
• Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing
• Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared

FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS

FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:

07970 876 638 • 01384 569 143

www.ragardenservices.net

Alarms

METRO ALARMS AND SECURITY

CCTV SYSTEMS

accessed via phones and tablets

NEW PROFESSIONAL WIRELESS SYSTEM

No Mess! Simple to use Remote Controlled

• Burglar Alarm Repairs

- Home Alarm Installation
- Upgrades Close Circuit TV
- 30 Years Experience • Video Entry Systems
- Alarms Serviced From £30

Free Quotes & Advice

01384 350 687

07904 317 150

(Any Time)

www.metro-alarms.co.uk

Double Glazing

Misted Sealed Units?

Black Country Glazing

Contact US for a FREE quote!

Manufacturers & Installers of

windows, doors & conservatories

'A' Rated Windows as Standard

10 YEAR GUARANTEE

Please see our customer reviews

on either Homepro or Which

Energy efficient windows

that won't cost the earth

Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ

Est 1987 01384 566100

www.blackcountryglazing.com

PROCESSED CERTIFIED FENSA

Blinds & Curtains

Blinds4Less

Choose From a fantastic range!

- Pleated -Venetians
- Romans -Curtains
- Verticals -Awnings
- Rollers -Shutters

"New range of chainless
verticals and night and
day rollers."

Give us a try before you buy!

Contact us on

01543 226104

07989 588728

Blinds4lessdirect.com

Driveways

ACE PAVING SERVICES LTD

City and Guilds Streetworks Approved

• Tarmacing • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios • Landscaping

• Streetworks • Curb dropping • Turfing • Fencing and Decking

• Power Washing • 5 year guarantee FREE estimate • 15 years experience

• Fully insured • Resinbond Drives.

01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419

Web: www.acepavingsservicesltd.co.uk

Email: acepavingsservices@outlook.com

Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields,

Halesowen B63 2QB

City & Guilds

CT DRIVEWAYS

FOR ALL YOUR SURFACING &
TARMAC WORK

- Paving and Drives
- Driveways
- Block Bricks and Tarmac Repairs
- New Drives
- Forecourts
- Car Parks
- Trading Estates

Proud members of

Checkatrade.com

Where reputation matters

For all enquiries please call

Tel: 01384 270740 Mobile: 07587 954073

email: ctdriveways@gmail.com

website: www.ct-driveways.co.uk

Double Glazing

MISTY UNITS REPLACED

Buy Direct from the manufacturer. Est. 1999

Reduce heat loss by up to 75%

Also upgrade your existing double glazed units to Pilkington

Energikare, it will help to reduce the amount of heat lost

through your windows by up to 75%, lock, handles, hinges.

WITH A 10 YEAR GUARANTEE AND FITTING SERVICE AVAILABLE

Unit 32 Delph Rd Ind Est (by the tank), Brierley Hill DY5 2UA

Visit our new website

www.delphglazedunits.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 520599

CE

HIGH SECURITY DOOR BARRELS

NOW BEING FITTED

WE HAVE A NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

01384 918383

Delph Glazed Units

Unit 32 Delph Rd Ind Est (by the tank), Brierley Hill DY5 2UA

Visit our new website

www.delphglazedunits.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 520599

CE

PAINTER & DECORATOR

Professional and reliable

Fully insured

O.A.P Discounts

For a free

quote call Carl

0121 561 1881

or 07532 200591

Fascias, Soffits & Guttering

For All aspects of cleaning & repair call

Robert for a

FREE quote on

07767869792

We Fit UPVC

Soffits & Fascias

Robert's

Guttering

Services

20% Discount

Local Specialists

Dry Verge Units Fitted

For All aspects of cleaning & repair call

Robert for a

FREE quote on

07767869792

We Fit UPVC

Soffits & Fascias

Builders

C ETHERIDGE BUILDING SERVICES

• Extensions

• Alterations

• Roofing

• Landscaping

• Block paving

• General property

maintenance.

For a FREE quote call Chris

01384 635627

07989 738732

Landscapers

CARDINAL LANDSCAPES

West Midlands

Specialists in Patios,

Driveways, Paths, Fencing,

Turfing, Decking and

Landscaping

Call now for a

FREE QUOTE

01902 562600 or

07539 887144

To advertise your business and reach more than 56,000 potential customers...

1

Call us on...
01384 399901

2

E-mail us at...
sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

3

Post to...
Sue Jones, Stourbridge Chronicle
3 Market Street, Stourbridge DY8 1AB

Local Specialists



Gutter Cleaning

Gutter Cleaning

Are they blocked? Full of Dirt, Leaves & Moss?
Are they over flowing when it rains

AVOID COSTLY REPAIR BILLS

We use the latest equipment, and will clear any blockages or loose build up from your gutter...

Call Today 07541-928-598



SPECIAL OFFER
£40
PER PROPERTY

Plumbing & Heating

KEN PERRY

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER

Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing
and Immersion Heaters,
Multi Point Water Heaters,
Landlord's Gas Certificates,
Boilers changed
Guild of Master Craftsmen
Gas Safe Registered

STOURBRIDGE 392284

Roofing

Roofing & Fascias

Est 2001

Quality

- uPVC Fascias
- Soffits
- Guttering
- Cladding

- All aspects of roofing
- New roofs/repairs
- Flat roofs
- Tiling/slating

- Dry verges
- Approved fibre glass installer

Also

CONCRETE GUTTERING

*Specialist removal
Replacing with
Modern low maintenance
Upvc Fascias and Soffits*



All work
guaranteed
with HomePro
Insurance

Registered with



Membership
No. 554518



Giving homeowners peace of mind
**ALWAYS FREE ADVICE
AND QUOTATION**
Freephone 0800 799 9413
Mob: 07906 724736
to speak to Mark

123 Amblecote Road, Brierley Hill,
West Midlands DY5 2YD

No Free
Gimmicks
Family
Business
Local
References
if required

Home Improvements

Serenity

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

- Extensions • New Build
- Electrical • Plumbing
- Plastering • Carpentry
- Brickwork
- Windows/Doors
- Tiling • Roofing

Fully qualified tradesmen
ALL WORK GUARANTEED

One call does it all
01384 279997

www.serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk

Roofing

A.B.S

Roofing and Building
3rd Generation Family Business

A dedicated roofing specialist.
National company services
with family business prices.
We pride ourselves on your
satisfaction and that
includes price.
Fully insured.

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

01384 849090
07895 672594

ROOFING SERVICES

One of the Leading Roofing Companies
No Job too Small, No Job too Big

- Gutters Cleaned From £15
- Small Repairs From £15
- Pointing Work From £15

SPECIAL OFFERS

- on all UPVC Fascias, Gutters,
New Roofs/Slate Tile & Felt
and Garage Roofs.
- Rubberised flat roofing
- Flat roof specialist
- Insurance work undertaken
- Est 25 years
- Discounted for OAPs
- Exterior Painting

FREE QUOTES AVAILABLE

**WILL BEAT ANY
GENUINE QUOTE**



SPECIAL OFFER
on EPDM
Rubberised
Roofing

Home: 01384 872276
Mobile: 07584 081228

Locksmiths

Security Locksmith Services

LOCK PROBLEMS!

01384 354344 / 07540 380140

Tony Lane 76 Church Rd
Wordsley DY8 5AU
- Emergency Call Out Service -

Plastering

S Harris Plastering

All aspects of Plastering:

- Boarding • Dry Lining
- Skimming • Coving

Professional high quality workmanship

Call Steve for a free Quote
07853 257 230

ELITE PLASTICS



- Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge
- Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair

**Premium Products Expertly Fitted
With Full Manufacture Guarantee.**

For A Free Quote call
01384 468831 / 07985 575865
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

GMD ROOFING & UPVC

**24 HOUR
EMERGENCY
CALL-OUT**

All Aspects of Roofing

- Fascias & Soffits
- Felt Roofs
- Roof Repairs
- Slate Roofing
- Cleaning, Tiling and Repairs

Fully Insured

CALL GARETH ON 07977 040124

Rubbish Removal

A.J.B. Waste Management

Try us for a **FREE** no obligation quotation
FOR A CHEAP RUBBISH REMOVAL 6 DAYS

Small jobs NOT A PROBLEM

We load, No Skips, Free quotation

GARDEN, HOUSEHOLD, SHED, GARAGE,
WHITE GOODS, HOUSE CLEARANCES FURNITURE.

You can also bring your own waste
to our fully licensed transfer station
CALL TODAY AND LETS TALK RUBBISH

Tel 0121 520 7731



Scaffolding

GMD SCAFFOLDING SERVICES LTD



The Scaffolding Experts
FULLY INSURED
All aspects of scaffolding domestic and
commercial
NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL
EXCELLENT RATES

CALL GARETH ON 07977 040124 / 07714899321

Skip Hire

MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE

Save £££

All size skips and all areas covered
Same day delivery faster than
A phone call!!!

Open 7 days a week

SCRAP CARS
REMOVED FOR **FREE**

07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56



BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL



Place your items for sale with great
offers from the Express & Star and
reach over half a million people*.

We don't have any hidden fees, expensive delivery charges
or commission payments - just a great service, at great value
for money enabling you to buy and sell locally.

Contact us today to place your advert

TELEPHONE - 01902 317878
ON LINE - bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk
IN PERSON - At your local Express & Star office

*SOURCE: Jicreg 01.10.2012. Private advertisers only.

Buy Local, Sell Local

ClassifiedAds

Funeral Directors

Wombourne
Funeral Services
& Monumental Masons
For your nearest branch
call 01902 892635
wombournefuneralservices.co.uk

A TRADITION OF TRUST



"We are very pleased with the service offered by the Express & Star. Our business and advertising needs are always well met."

Wombourne
Funeral Services.

For great business results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

J.T. BROOKES

Independent family run
Funeral Directors
24 hour service
Brierley Hill 01384 77098
Kingswinford 01384 296683
Hagley 01562 888041
www.nedowning.co.uk

1 Family

Elderly & Disabled

GLITE PRO wheelchair, lightweight, was £200 new, sell for £75. Care co electric pavement scooter, Zoom plus £175. 07538 651604.



KYMC O MAXER
8mph Mobility Scooter.
Glossy black. Solid tyres.
Excellent condition as used only twice.

Spec includes 31 stone max, adjustable tiller, free delivery within 20 mile radius.

£2,500 ono
01902 763555.



MOBILITY SCOOTER FOR SALE

Hardly used.

£300 ono

07812 397213.

STAIRLIFTS FULLY INSTALLED
From only £600 Straits Mobility
01384 356356 or 07967 110861.

QUINGO TOURA 2
Immaculate condition, as new, 12 months old, hardly used, cost £6,595, genuine reason for sale.
Offers.
Telephone 07891 601271

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

2 Leisure Time

Caravans Wanted

All Caravans Wanted
Any Age or Condition
CASH WAITING*
Immediate collection
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN/Motorhome for you and get the best possible price. Severn Valley Leisure, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

Caravans/Motorhomes



HIGHLEY PARK HOME

12 month residential site. Park home lodge. Fabulous views, own garden and drive way. Near to Highley shops and bus stop.

£82,000.

07774 715830.

Caravan Sales

A CHOICE OF CARAVANS FOR sale from £1995 to £8995, accessory shop, service, repairs, storage. Severn Valley Leisure Stourbridge, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183 www.severnvalleyleisure.com

Travel Abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED to check with any Advertiser that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

Jumble Sales / Fetes

BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR
Sunday, 11th February
Next Sale: February 25th
KINVER COMMUNITY CENTRE, DY7 6ER
10.30am - 4pm
Tel: 01384 894464

Sports & Leisure

Free Ads

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items upto £250.
Online at
bookanad.
expressandstar.co.uk

3 Home & Services

Furniture

A LIGHT OAK Dining room table and chairs, neatly folds away, excellent condition. £75.
01902 820973.

In Your Garden

FLYMO LAWMOWER for sale
£35.
07828 664983.

Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

KITCHEN TABLE 30" x 30" plus two chairs. £50. Dirt Devil vacuum cleaner. £50. 07828 664983.

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

Items Wanted

A BEST CASH PRICE

FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS
Any gauge or age
Hornby/Bachmann/Bowmans/Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/any live steam. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
01384 836219/07891 713547
thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com



A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LORRIES

Britains, Corgi, Dinky, Spot on, Tri-ang, Danbury Mint and Mamod Engines.
Best prices paid.
Any condition.
Collections bought.
Telephone 01922 327897 or 07976 691563.

AUTO MEMORABILIA WANTED

SHELL, ESSO, CASTROL ETC ALSO

GARAGE CLEARANCES

Old Enamel Signs,
Petrol Cans,
Old Jugs,
Bikes and Motorbikes.
Anything old.

**** TOP PRICES PAID ****

01384 836219/07891 713547
OLD BIBLES Wanted, pre 1900, for Private buyer. Fair prices paid. Distance no object. Telephone 015 973 5662.

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

SPECTRUM GAMES Wanted, plus any Spectrum 128k+2 computer wanted also any old Crash or your Sinclair Magazines. 01902 892918.

WANTED LIVE GROUP
For booking November 17, Crown Pub at Codsall. Free drinks and buffet, 2hrs of playing only.
Contact Mr Hill on 01902 842033.

Loans

READERS ARE REMINDED that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

specialists at your service

Aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99
01902 858191 / 01384 429166
01543 439095 / 01922 716029

A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST
Digital aerials, CCTV cameras, TV wall mount fitted. 07850 330251.

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"I am very pleased with the response I get from my Classified Advertising Contract"

Steve -
AA Digital Aerials

For great business results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

Alarms/Security

PREMIER ALARMS

Supplied and Fitted £249
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

Building Services

G & D BUILDERS

Over 35 years exp
All aspects of building work
Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways & landscaping.
All work guaranteed
07837 994465 / 01902 579592

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

A BRILLCLEAN FOR YOUR CARPETS & SUITES
Special offers. Feb / March OAP discounts.
Call Steve on **07496 922324**

Fencing

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."

Michael -
Portway Fencing

For great business results call
01902 319 191

Classified Ads
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards. **£695**
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

Electrical Services

STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL
Rewires/sockets/fuse boards etc.
All domestic and commercial work.
07786 858377/01902 846167.

Gas Fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

Handyman Services

LOCAL HANDYMAN Most Trades, Free Quotes, Insured, CRB checked, City & Guilds. Contact Lee 0789 147 5718

House Clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 126441 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021

ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING CLEARED FULL OR PART. GARAGES AND SHEDS RUBBISH REMOVED WASTE LICENCE
01384 486456 / 07711661135

Removals

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL IAN. Man with a large van. No job too small, no distance too far. 07973 828534, 01902 891535.

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS. LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED. Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS AND HOUSE CLEARANCES

We move anything. Professional service, 45 years' experience, DFS approved and we take the stress away.
Please call:
07966 281957

Roofing

GRIFFIN ROOFING
All aspects of roofing work undertaken
Fascias, Soffits & Guttering
Roof Conversions & more
Free Quotes:
07734 432235 / 0121 4396145

MG ROOFING
Flat Roofing, Tiling, Roof Repairs, Fascias and Gutters.
Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.
www.mgroofingwestmidlands.co.uk

Rubbish Removal

LETS TALK RUBBISH No Skips Needed, Load/Remove any Waste, House Clearance. 07969 628382

Skip Hire

BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH! No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 5JR, Est 40 years, 01384 232353.

Oven Cleaning



Express & Star

OVEN CLEANERS!

CLAIM YOUR FREE ADVERT
(T&Cs Apply)

Call Claire Smith: 01902 319661
claire.smith@expressandstar.co.uk

t.v. / home entertainment

Service

AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST
Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky, CCTV cameras, TV wall mounts and TV set ups. 07850 330251.

4 Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information.

Guns & Dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

5 Business & Farming

Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

6 Property

Accommodation To Let

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

A COMFORTABLE FURNISHED room for single, mature, working person. CH, TV, cleaning, linen, all bills. £275pm, no DSS. Stafford Road, Wton. 07957 595840.

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

LARGE SELF CONTAINED studio flat, CH, laundry, car park, Tattenhall Road. 01902 334081.

PENN ONE bed self contained flat, CH, DG, DSS, over 35s. £85pw. No deposit. 07900 156313.

Overseas Property

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

Properties Wanted

We buy houses Sell your house fast

- avoid repossession
- behind on payments
- job relocation
- unwanted inheritance

What more -
we buy in any condition
No estate agent fees
We pay all your legal fees

ACT NOW!

Contact us on:
07796 801219 / 07988 882090

Free Ads

IT'S FREE IT'S EASY

*Advertise any item **FREE** up to the value of **£250** go to:
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

Simply click the FreeAds icon

FreeAds

*Private advertisers only, no guns, pets, or livestock.
Free adverts are published within 7 days of receipt, in-paper and online and are limited to 3 lines maximum.

Properties Wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!
FAST 4 Your House CASH

You agree the price, we buy the house...

- NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

0800 999 999 6
01384 500 500 **30 yrs**

www.black-country-homes.co.uk * subject to terms

CASH NOW **Wolverhampton properties**
FOR YOUR HOUSE
UP TO £25,000 CASH ADVANCE NOW (in 24hrs)
 * Free Solicitors • No Fees • Any House • Any Condition
0800 389 6788 **01902 628047** **2 days**

WE BUY ANY HOUSE CASH
CALL US FREE 24 Hours/ 7days
0800 246 1047

- ✓ All Your Costs Paid & No Selling Fees
- ✓ We Buy Any Area & Any Condition
- ✓ STOP Repossession/Eviction
- ✓ Release Your Equity Today

www.UKFASTSALE.co.uk
FREE Solicitors, FREE Survey, FREE Home Removals, FREE EPC

GET UP TO £20,000 CASH ADVANCE
 5 STAR REVIEWS **UK Fast Sale**

7 Jobs

Engineering

NC TURNER

Good rates of pay
 Permanent position

MI ENGINEERING LTD

01384 894156

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL
01902 317878

Classified Ads

Full Time General

THE APPRENTICESHIP SHOW

THE JOB BOX
 Apprenticeships are open to ALL ages
 Come and find out how they could work for you

Thursday 8 March 2018
The International Centre, Telford
12noon - 7.30pm Last entry 7pm



www.telfordjobbox.co.uk/tas18

Showcasing 100's of apprenticeships opportunities across Telford and Wrekin, Shropshire, The West Midlands and beyond.



Yes! HOMEBUYERS
 THE EASY WAY TO SELL YOUR HOUSE

We Buy Houses For Cash

Free Valuation? Yes! No Fees? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
 Fast Sale? Yes! Any House? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!

Get your FREE, instant cash offer today!

Call 01562 277 067
 or text "Cash" to 66777 yeshomebuyers.com

Courses

BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 May and 5-6 September
STOKE: 6-7 August **TELFORD:** 8-9 August
WOLVERHAMPTON: 8-9 March & 25-26 July

Learn how to take blood
TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST
Introduction to Phlebotomy
TWO DAY COURSE - NATIONALLY RECOGNISED

- Allied Healthcare Career Path
- Accredited (advanced) qualification
- No previous experience required

For more info, or to book online: www.geopace.com

High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

8 Motoring

Cars Over £1500

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.



CITROEN BERLINGO VAN
 2009, 09 Reg. White. 1.6 Diesel, MOT June. Good Condition. Two owners from new. 129000 miles. Genuine reason for sale.
£1,850
07710 583286

EXCELLENT CONDITION
DACIA SANDERO LAUREATE DCi
 5dr hatchback, white, one very careful owner. £6,000 or very nearest offer Strictly genuine callers only please.
07729 953812.



MAZDA MX5 1.8S
 2001 roadster, MOT, average mileage, racing bronze, good service record, mohair hood, alloys, EW, pioneer dab, chrome roll bars.
£1,750
07771 428793.

Cars Over £1500



MINI COOPER
 2005, 63,600 Miles, silver, part Leather Interior, panoramic electric roof mot November 18, 6 disc cd,
£1,700 ono
01902 657460

ECONOMICAL
RENAULT MEGANE MK 3 ESTATE
 New shape. 59 plate. 100,000 miles, Very good condition. 10 months MoT. £30 car tax per year.
£2,100 ono.
01384 829744 / 07966 630912.

ECONOMICAL
TOYOTA YARIS 1.3
 2005, 5dr hatchback. 2 lady owners from new. full MoT, recently serviced. Service history. Immaculate condition.
£1,850.
07467 562680.

Cars Under £1500



FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC
 03 MoT'd, low miles, 68k, new tyres, exhaust, battery, very clean inside and out,
£595.
07791 113080

LOW MILEAGE

ROVER 620Si
 1997, owned car the 2002, two previous owners, MoT due September 2018, garaged, excellent condition, 77,642 miles.
£550 ono.
07939 101769.

BARGAIN
FORD KA

2007, 61,519 miles, long MoT, good condition, test drive, blue.
£750 ono
01902 238488 / 07787 424281.

4X4
LANDROVER FREELANDER

SE TD4
 52 Reg., 90,000 miles, red, very good condition, two owners.
£1,495 o.n.o.
01902 895481.

IDEAL FIRST CAR

NISSAN MICRA 1.0
 P. Reg.
 Red.
 MoT.
 FSH.
 Excellent runner.
Bargain £395 ono.
07973 775560.



RENAULT SCENIC
 2005, 53,000 miles, grey, electric windows, air bag, electric mirrors, air con, 12 months MoT, central locking, pas, alloys, CD, spots.
£1,200 ono.
01902 676865.

IMMACULATE

TOYOTA AVENIS T3X
 2003, 146,000 miles, MoT to April, EW, EM, PAS, onboard computer, dual climate control, alloy wheels, metallic gold, fsh but no record.
 Immaculate condition.
£650
07983 329053.

BARGAIN

VAUXHALL TIGRA 1.4 CONVERTIBLE
 Silver,
 09 plate, 2dr,
 10 months MoT,
 average mileage,
 excellent condition.
£950 ono
07938 598881.

LOOK

VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.0T SRI 2006
 Silver, 75k, 18ins alloys, 12 months MoT, very good condition.
£1,495.
01562 631640.

Cars Under £1500

BARGAIN

CHEVROLET AVEO 1.2
 2010, 53,950 miles, black, central locking, electric windows, MoT till May 2018, good condition.
£1450 ono
01902 238488 / 07787 424281.

DAIHATSU MOVE. 1997, 79,000 miles, silver, electric windows, air bag, fsh, MoT, £350 ono.
07739 380274.

Classic Cars

WANTED, CLASSIC Car. Private cash buyer. Any condition, anything considered.
01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

Commercial Vehicles



FORD TRANSIT 85/260 SWB DIESEL VAN 2008 (08)
 Semi high roof. Safe-T-Bar. Tow Bar.
 Full ply lining.
 12 months MoT. FSH.
 Very good condition.
£1,750 ono.
07836 239590.

Motorbikes



HONDA CBR 600 1998
 Black / Orange.
 Fully Serviced.
 12 months MoT.
 Very good condition.
£2,000 ono.
07828 928354.

Scrap Vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

A BETTER PRICE for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
 Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397.
DY5 3JZ.

spares & accessories

Clutches/Brakes/ Gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE
 Renault Scenic, Vauxhall Zafira, Renault Clio, Ford Focus & KA and MANY MORE!!
 Ring for quotes
30 yrs experience
ALL AREAS COVERED
Call Bob
01384 251328
07972 169554
anytime

Vehicles Wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

alan reed cars
 Used cars wanted for cash Top prices paid. HP settled. Buyer could call.
01562 711083 / 07831 245313

10 Personals

General

DEDICATE CHRISTIAN COLIN
 Please Contact P. Box Number P21068, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

TRYING TO TRACE

MR H G JONES
 Born around 1930, Birmingham Road, Wolverhampton.

Any knowledge please contact:

Box Number P21069,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Personal

FREE TEXT MESSAGES from women wanting discreet ADULT FUN! Call 0121 620 2445 for full details. Discretion assured!



RESPECTABLE MALE

No ties, non smoker, solvent, classic car owner, nice home. Seeks respectable attractive female, 40-55, friendship / possible relationship.

Photo appreciated, will return.

Box Number P21071,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

STRAIGHT, KIDDERMINSTER LADY

Seeks similar lady companion for Coach Trip already booked for Warners Gunton Hall Coastal Village, February 19 to 23. Half board. Good entertainment. Your own single room.

Box Number P21067,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

WIDOWER LATE 70'S

Own house and car. WLTm a genuine lady with a happy outlook and a GSOH to share my life.

West side of Wolverhampton preferred.

Box Number P21066,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 1ES.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
 (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)



Brendon Batson reads out his tribute



A picture of Cyrille, a Baggies shirt and his trademark cap



One-time Villa forward Dwight Yorke



Ex-boss at Albion and Villa Ron Atkinson



Tears from fans at the memorial service



Adrian Chiles among the mourners



Former Villa striker Dion Dublin



Beverley Knight performs during the memorial service for Cyrille Regis

Phenomenal footballer – and an even better man

STARS paid tribute to footballing 'pioneer' Cyrille Regis at an emotional service, describing him as 'a superstar of the day, but a man of the people'.

At the service at The Hawthorns dedicated to his remarkable life, it was not just Cyrille's prowess on the pitch that was hailed. His humility and grace as a man was also celebrated.

Regis was described by his former boss Ron Atkinson as 'a phenomenal footballer and an even better bloke'. Former Liverpool and England star John Barnes called Cyrille 'an ambassador for humanity'.

And that praise for the former Albion, Wolves, Villa and Coventry forward's character was a recurring theme from all those who took the time to share memories of him. Among those at the service were Brighton boss Chris Hughton, Regis's nephew Jason Roberts, and ex-England stars Barnes, Carlton Palmer and Viv Anderson.

Albion fan and broadcaster Adrian Chiles, club legend 'Super' Bob Taylor and former Baggies and Wolves striker Don Goodman all attended. Soul star Beverley Knight performed during the service, while Chris Kamara, Les Ferdinand and Dwight Yorke also turned up.

Humility

Barnes heaped praise on Cyrille's personality, saying it even outshone his skills as a striker.

He said: 'Cyrille was a fantastic footballer but the greatest quality a human being can have in my opinion is humility – and for someone who was such a great person, he had humility in abundance.'

"As much as he was a great footballer, a trail-blazer and a pioneer, his greatest quality was his humility. He was an ambassador for humanity. The way he was as a person far superseded what he was as a footballer – and he was a great footballer."

Big Ron, who managed Regis at Albion and briefly at Villa, said: "From a football point of view, Cyrille would always be the number nine in my best ever team. And as a person he was a great bloke. He was a phenomenal footballer and an even better bloke."

"He didn't go out of his way to fight any crusades but he changed football by being what he was, a role model to everybody. He conducted himself the right way both on and off the field."

CYRILLE REGIS 1958-2018

By David Cosgrove

"He didn't go out of his way to fight any crusades but he changed football by being what he was, a role model to everybody."

Brighton manager Chris Hughton said: "He leaves a lasting legacy because he played in a very difficult era for black players and had a big impact on the lives of those black players who followed him."

Now a Sky Sports presenter, Chris Kamara played in that same era as Cyrille and said the striker had blazed a trail for others to follow. Kamara said: "He was an icon to so many players. What a man, what a legend."

"To withstand abuse in the way that he did and handle it the way that he did shows the measure of the man."

Broadcaster Adrian Chiles said Cyrille became his first hero after he saw him at The Hawthorns back in 1977. Now aged 50, Chiles said: "Cyrille was my first hero and I thought he was indestructible so it makes you realise we are all mortal. He transcended football. There have been so many footballers across the world but very few you can name that transcend the game."

"It's a privilege to have known him."

Bob Taylor, who followed in Cyrille's footsteps as an Albion striker and Hawthorns favourite, said: "From a personal point of view, Cyrille was my coach when I was here, he was a mentor for me – and he was a friend."

"Anybody you speak to will tell you that he was an ambassador on the football pitch and an ambassador off it."

Don Goodman, who – like Regis – represented both Albion and Wolves, added: "Quite simply he was a boyhood hero of mine."

"As I got to know Cyrille through my links with West Bromwich Albion, I came to know what a great

man he was. Not just because he stood up in the face of racism but because he was an all-around good fellow. This man was a superstar of the day, but he was a man of the people. He always had time for people. That is testament to the man – not the footballer."

In a moving eulogy, his nephew Jason Roberts, who also wore the Albion colours, said: "Carrying his coffin with my cousins, uncle and family members, it was the first time it has been hard to be Cyrille Regis's nephew."

"People always wanted to spend time with him, to spend time around his influence. I was so fortunate to have that as a family member."

"The way he interacted with me or my family wasn't necessarily unique. Everybody was inspired by him, that's why I went on to play football."

"It's why my uncle David went on to have a football career, why I wanted to have a career."

"As an individual and a family we don't own the legacy of Cyrille Regis, everybody here does, everybody who's been touched by him, everybody who's been motivated to stay here in the cold and listen to his legacy."

Struggled

"He was a special man and his legacy must live on and through our memories of him."

Dave Regis, Cyrille's younger brother, said: "Like all of us, Cyrille had his ups and downs in life. There was a time after Laurie Cunningham died that he struggled to come to terms with it. He found life difficult, this is when he turned to God seeking some comfort in his life."

"When C met Julia he was back to the brother we knew. He was beaming when he introduced her, it was obvious that she made him happy. His faith brought him peace, he never forced it on anyone."

"We will miss his wisdom, his voice and his life. We will miss you bro, all day long."

Said John Sillett, Coventry City's FA Cup-winning manager: "I had the greatest job in football, managing a man called Cyrille Regis."

"An electric gifted character, he was a bonder of men. After the Cup final he said 'Sill you gave me the proudest day of my life in football' and that was an honour for me."

"The team respected him, they're all here today. They all know what a great man, what a man you could always talk to."

Injured Gavin sees title fight put back

FRANKIE Gavin's IBO Welterweight World title fight with Bethuel Ushona has been pushed back a month after the Birmingham fighter suffered an ankle injury in training. The February 23 fight against the Namibian for the vacant title, at the Genting Arena in Birmingham, has been rescheduled to March 24.

Tickets will be honoured from the original date and the undercard – which features the likes of Josh Stokes and includes two other IBO title fights – is expected to be relatively unaffected.

Gavin's trainer Dean Edwards admitted the injury – sustained during a training camp in Ireland – had been a setback but insisted it was merely a minor one and that Frankie would be fighting fit for the new date. He said: "Frankie has sprained the ligaments in his left ankle and been advised by medics to cease training for seven to ten days. But it's a minor problem."

Gavin said: "I'm gutted but I'll be back. There is no way I'm letting myself or anyone else down."

Selby on cue for an exhibition maximum

WORLD snooker champ Mark Selby racked up a 147 break when he checked in at Stourbridge Snooker Club. The world number one played 10 frames against local players and two raffle winners and knocked in a further three century breaks, including a 132 to kick off the evening.

Local snooker league stalwart Kevin Franklin, who helped organise the event, almost stole the headlines in the final frame of the evening when he lost on the black against the cue-man dubbed 'The Jester from Leicester'.

But while his potting skills drew plenty of plaudits, it was his all-round demeanour that really impressed Franklin. "Mark was a class act, not just on the table but off it as well," added Franklin. "I have been to a lot of these exhibition nights and organised a fair few, but this was the best one by far."

"He had time for everyone and was still there around midnight signing autographs and having pictures taken. Initially he had been due to play eight frames but when he turned up he said he would do a bit of a question and answer session and play a couple extra frames if we wanted."

Fundraising game for club mascot's family

MASCOTS will do battle at Halesowen Town FC for a match in memory of Albion mascot Richard Eades.

Richard, who dressed as Albi Bird, died of a heart attack on Boxing Day, aged 42. Fellow mascot and friend Dave Challenor, who donned the Baggie Bird costume, has organised the match. The mascots' clash will provide the curtain-raiser for match between a West Brom All-Stars team led by former midfielder Andy Johnson and Boing FC, the Albion supporters' team father-of-two Eades used to play for.

Dave is confident mascots from Wolves, Walsall, Birmingham City, Manchester City, Sheffield United, Sheffield Wednesday, Bradford City, Yeovil Town, Hartlepool, and Exeter City will all join in the match.

Hundreds of people have already registered an interest in coming along on April 29, part of a whole day devoted to fundraising for the Eades family. It starts at 11am. It will start with a nine-a-side tournament featuring teams from all aspects of Richard's life.

Sport

SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

What a man! Tributes for legend big Cyrille continue

Page 51



CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

Chess club have sights on promotion

STOURBRIDGE chess club's Wolverhampton division 2 'A' team continued their march towards promotion when they hosted a Rushall team who could have provided a serious test.

They arrived with two reserves to give Stourbridge an advantage on the bottom two boards along with the advantage they had with their inform top two boards.

First to finish was Julie Wilson who had to accept a draw in a blocked position with a bad bishop. Next came a surprising draw for Nic Fallowfield to make the match a little tighter.

On board 3 Dave Scriven forced his opponent to resign, while Sam Bradley on board six shook hands on a draw.

A win for Zibby Koncki ensured Stourbridge won the match and Paul Sharratt resigned. It means Stourbridge are top of the division, having won five and drawn one of six games.

A slightly depleted Birmingham division 4 team travelled to Lichfield. However, Stourbridge still had a slight advantage on paper.

After the opening hour of play, the six board match looked evenly balanced, with Stourbridge better on two boards and Lichfield better on two. Colin Woodall and Martin Berridge both then agreed draws.

On board 6, captain Steve Alcock set a trap which his opponent fell for and won the exchange. Then two more results came in – a win for Richard Wilkinson and a loss on board two. On board one, John Foxall forced a resignation and Stourbridge won 4-2. They are on course for an upper mid-table finish.

To join Stourbridge chess club, contact Dave Scriven on 01384 423642 or visit www.stourbridgechess.f9.co.uk

Heathens eight-race fixture list compiled

CRADLEY Heathens have revealed their 2018 fixture list – with just eight dates in the diary.

Heathens will race only in the National Trophy, hosting home fixtures at Monmore Green with a 7.30pm start.

Director Nigel Pearson said: "Whilst there's a lot of excitement about the team we have assembled, the reality of the situation strikes when you see the fixture list and only eight matches."

"The only way we could return to full league racing is by finally securing a site of our own, or some financial support can be given to ensure we don't lose money by staging meetings at Birmingham."

"That said, we have a super team with some exciting young talent and I'm really looking forward to seeing them in Heathens colours."

Fixtures:
Apr 27: Coventry (a)
May 7: Stoke (H)
May 12: Stoke (a)
May 21: Coventry (H)
May 27: Buxton (a)
Jun 18: Buxton (H)
Jul 16: Birmingham (H)
August 1: Birmingham (a)

James in swing for adding to haul



James Ilsley with his golfing haul

A RISING star at Dudley Golf Club has added to his growing haul of silverware.

James Ilsley, aged 12, from Sedgley, continues to make great strides on the fairways and has been crowned the club's player of the year for the fourth year in a row.

James, who plays county golf for Worcestershire under-14s, is dominating the local junior scene, also picking up the best gross score and

order of merit for the fourth year in a row. In addition to scooping the end of year accolade, James dominated in club events around the picturesque Turner's Hill course, winning eight of the 10 tournaments he entered.

James' mother Samantha Russell, who runs the club's junior section, said: "He's been getting better every year. I'm very proud."

"We're a growing side at Dudley but when James is on form, no one

can touch him, he's just that good." After being introduced to golf at seven by his father, James' love for the game blossomed after having lessons with ex-Walker Cup player Darren Prosser. The youngster has recently joined The Belfry.

Samantha added: "It's down to the parents to put the effort and time in to take their kids anywhere they need to go to play. We pride ourselves on that and it's really benefited James."

SAM THE MAN'S TREBLE CHANCE

Huddersfield 13 Stourbridge 26

SAM Pailor scored a hat-trick of tries as Stourbridge moved into third place in the league with this victory at Lockwood Park.

The rain and heavy conditions were never going to make for an open, running style of play.

The hosts lost Andrew Wigley to a yellow card and Stour made the most of the numerical advantage with a pushover try for Pailor, Chris Scott adding the extras from 35m. Huddersfield reduced the deficit with a Harry Davey penalty.

Within seven minutes of the second half, Huddersfield lost another player to the sin-bin and No8 Pailor powered over for a try, Scott again converting. It only took four minutes for the hosts to hit back, through the boot of Davey with a drop goal. The next score was Pailor's hat-trick try, Scott adding his third success.

Crashed

The bonus point was secured in the 71st minute, Dan Rundle with his third try in two games. The conversion was missed. Replacement Nick Sharpe crashed through for a Huddersfield try, giving Davey his eight point tally. This weekend, Stourbridge are at home to Leicester Lions.

Stourbridge Lions turned in a stellar performance again against top five outfit Stoke, winning 51-26.

Lions led 22-0, through a Rhys Williams penalty and tries from Tim Daly, Tom Nott, converted by Williams and Scott Langdon, also converted.

Stoke replied with two tries and a conversion, one either side of Jack Nott's bonus point try, converted by Williams for a 29-14 half-time lead.

Will King added a try, converted, but two Stoke tries, one converted, pulled them within 10 points. But Joe Loverock and George Tildesley, converted, added tries, and Williams slotted a penalty. Next up is Camp Hill.



Hat-trick hero Sam Pailor carries the ball as Stourbridge look to get forward at Huddersfield

Wood rack up division's highest total

COOMBS Wood scored the highest total of the WCB Indoor League – North Division, scoring 132-3 against Quatt in week four. They bowled out Quatt for 105 to win by 27 runs.

Coombs Wood lost a wicket in the first over, but Mike Langford (24) joined Carl Whyte (25no) and quickly raised the scoring rate. After Whyte's re-

tirement, the batsmen continued to go after the bowling.

In reply, Quatt openers Rob Wheldon (26) and captain Alex Biddle (39) went chasing runs. But they were not backed up by the others, and with three wickets lost in the 10th over the target was out of reach.

In the other game, Stourbridge (110-3) beat Chaddesley

Corbett (102-5) by eight runs. After Stourbridge lost opener Stu Ludlam in the first over, Matt Bradley (30no) and captain Rashid (29no) started to repair the damage and the remaining batsmen all chipped in.

For Chaddesley Corbett the wheels came off in the middle overs when they lost three quick wickets, losing momentum.

Deduction puts Yeltz on bottom

HALESOWEN TOWN have been deducted four points for fielding an ineligible player – dumping them to the bottom of the Evo-Stik Northern Premier Division.

The Yeltz admitted fielding Kalern Thomas for three games in September and October while he was still registered with Solihull Moors. The club requested a personal hearing with the Evo-Stik League, and received £600 fine.

The four points won from involving Thomas played have now been deducted.

A club statement said the league met again on January 31 to discuss how the case breaches their rules and the club were further charged with fielding an ineligible player, resulting in the loss of the points and another £100 fine. Halesowen are considering an appeal.

On the field, Halesowen's woes continued, shipping five goals in the second half to slump to defeat at Whitby.

Captain Steve Snaith and Junior Mondal scored two each and James Fairley one. Yeltz had Marcus Poscha sent off.

Stourbridge reached the Birmingham Senior Cup semi-finals on Monday with a 3-2 victory at Coleshill Town, debutant Edilson Antonio netting an 85th-minute winner after earlier goals from Leon Broadhurst and Connor Gater.

Glassboys picked up a share of the spoils against third-placed Shaw Lane in the Evo-Stik Premier on Saturday.

Luke Benbow's cross from the byline deceived goalkeeper Eddie Wilczynski to equalise after Alex Byrne had given Shaw Lane a third minute lead.

Rivals meet for place in Hunt Cup quarters

DUDELEY Town and Tipton Town meet next Wednesday for a place in the quarter-finals of the JW Hunt Cup.

Opponents for the winners will be either Alvechurch, Heath Hayes or Wolverhampton Casuals. The first two have yet to play their first round tie, which has been postponed three times.

Already in the quarter-finals are Walsall Wood and Paget Rangers who play for a semi-final place on Tuesday. Paget ended Tivendale's hopes with a 1-0 win in the second round.

A second semi-finalist will be known after Sporting Khalsa play Atherstone Town on February 27.

★★★ The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketterly, Telford. Thursday, February 8, 2018

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING The recycled content of newspapers in 2015 was 62.8%



Domino's®

01384 374666

**Stourbridge Industrial Estate,
Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN**

**Opening Hours: 11am to 11pm Sunday-Thursday
11am to Midnight Friday and Saturday**

Stourbridge

CHRONICLE

INSIDE: YOUR REGULAR CHRONICLE



Thursday, February 8, 2018

Read by more than 56,000 people

Price when sold 70p

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Cousins

4 DAY ONLY EVENT
THIS THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

EXTRA
DISCOUNTS
OFF ALL
SALE PRICES

- ENDS THIS SUNDAY 5PM -

This Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Cousins are offering extra discounts off every single low sale price throughout their magnificent furniture, carpet and bedding stores.

This amazing promotion includes all special sale offers. Remember, whatever you choose at Cousins, you pay nothing for a year, no deposit, interest free!

PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR. NO DEPOSIT. INTEREST FREE.

LOW SALE PRICES.

4 DAY ONLY

**THIS THURSDAY, FRIDAY,
SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**EXTRA
DISCOUNTS
OFF ALL
SALE PRICES**

ENDS THIS SUNDAY 5PM

An unmissable opportunity to take advantage of **extra discounts off all sale prices** at Cousins, the Midlands' largest and most inspirational furniture stores.

That's right! This Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Cousins are offering **extra discounts off every single low sale price** throughout their magnificent furniture, carpet and bedding stores.

This amazing promotion includes **all special sale offers**. Remember, whatever you choose at Cousins, you pay nothing for a year, no deposit, interest free!

**PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR.
NO DEPOSIT. INTEREST FREE.**



**Furnish every room
of your home all under
one roof...**

Whether you're furnishing a living, dining or bedroom, upgrading your flooring or adding an all important finishing touch, you'll find it all at Cousins.



£89

TRIPOD FILM FLOOR LAMP
Normal £129 | Sale £99



Y EVENT

PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR. NO DEPOSIT. INTEREST FREE.

3

Thursday, February 8, 2018



£799
 OVATION CORNER GROUP SOFA
 (INCLUDES CUSHIONS)
 Normal £1399 | Sale £949

SAVE
£600

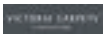


£899
 TUCSON MARBLE DINING
 TABLE AND 4 CHAIRS
 Normal £1589 | Sale £1199

SAVE
£690



Parker Knoll



Harrison

HALO
ESTABLISHED 1978

Fama

TEMPUR



WILLIS & GAMBER
Furniture designed for life



DURESTA



Karnidean
Design flooring

ercol



COMPLETE
 BEDROOM



£499
 OGILVY 3 SEATER SOFA
 (INCLUDING CUSHIONS)
 Normal £799 | Sale £599

SAVE
£300



£179
 LOUIS LEANER
 LARGE FULL
 LENGTH MIRROR
 (69 X 35")
 Normal £349
 Sale £199



£549
 AINSLIE KING SIZE BEDSTEAD WITH STORAGE
 Normal £799 | Sale £599



Over 80 beds on display in
 our bedding department in store.

Cousins
 Established 1985

4 DAY ONLY EVENT



THIS THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

EXTRA DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SALE PRICES



ENDS THIS SUNDAY 5PM
Many items less than half price!!

STRESSLESS - Save 30%	Plus CONSUL - FREE SIGNATURE BASE UPGRADE FOR CLASSIC (WHILE STOCKS LAST)
RONSON 3 seater sofa (double manual recliner)	NORMAL £949 Limited Quantity Offer £599
OSLO king size fabric bedstead	NORMAL £579 SALE £449 £399
NOLTE BEDROOMS - free fitting and UK delivery	SAVE 35%
RUGS - assorted sizes, styles and colours	SAVE UP TO 60%
MYERS Elara 650 double 2 drawer divan set	NORMAL £579 SALE £429 £349
DENBY - ALL REMAINING STOCK!	SAVE 60%
LOUIS LEANER Carved full length mirror (69 x 35")	NORMAL £349 SALE £199 £179

PAY NOTHING FOR A YEAR. NO DEPOSIT. INTEREST FREE.



Cousins
Established 1985

FREE CAR PARKING • INSTORE RESTAURANT
LARGE STOCKS FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

**4 Day Event Opening Hours: Thursday & Friday 10am - 8pm,
Saturday 9.30am - 6pm, Ends Sunday 11am - 5pm.**

**Birmingham Warwick Road, Tyseley. B11 2EW. T: 0121 765 3300
Dudley Hall Street, DY2 8NW. T: 01384 451500**

cousinsfurniture.co.uk

0% APR
REPRESENTATIVE

Deferred Interest Free Credit available on all orders over £500. Subject to status. All balances must be paid in full one year from the date specified at the time of purchase. Written details on request. Offer not available on clearance items, online offers, web specials and in-store concessions. Some items are subject to one per household and only available in limited colours, or the colours shown in this advert. Prices in this advert are valid until Sunday 11th February 2018. *See website for Price Promise details.

PRICE PROMISE

Our promise to you,
we won't be beaten
on price! *

TRUSTED MERCHANT
★★★★★
feefo

CELEBRATING
32
YEARS